

**November 2021**

# **BOLT**

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## Banking & Finance

### 1. RBI Cancels PPI Certificates of DigitSecure, Kedia Infotech and Oxigen Services; Also, Muthoot Finance's White Label ATMs

Three prepaid payment instrument operators, DigitSecure India Pvt Ltd, Kedia Infotech Ltd and Oxigen Services (India) Pvt Ltd and Muthoot Finance Ltd, the white-label automated teller machine (ATM) operator, have surrendered their certificate of authorisations (CoA). Accordingly, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled their CoA.

### 2. RBI issues revised PCA framework for banks

The RBI issued a revised Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for banks to enable supervisory intervention at 'appropriate time' and also act as a tool for effective market discipline. Indicators to be tracked for capital, asset quality and leverage would be CRAR/Common Equity Tier I Ratio, Net NPA Ratio and Tier I Leverage Ratio, respectively. The revised PCA framework will be effective from January 1, 2022.

### 3. PhonePe introduces tokenisation solution ahead of RBI's December 31 deadline

Digital payments and financial services company PhonePe has launched a tokenization solution for online debit and credit card transactions called PhonePeSafeCard. PhonePe has joined card companies and payment companies like Visa, Rupay, Razorpay, and PayU in introducing tokenization solutions ahead of the December 31 deadline for the Reserve Bank.

### 4. Sell bad debts early, let ARCs take part in IBC: RBI committee

A committee formed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to recommend ways to revive asset reconstruction companies (ARCs) has suggested an early sale of bad debts to them, directly acquiring non-performing assets from the market, and letting ARCs bid in the insolvency and bankruptcy process. The committee was headed by former RBI executive director Sudarshan Sen.

### 5. CBDT notifies e-settlement scheme for taxpayers

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has notified an e-settlement scheme to settle pending income-tax settlement applications transferred to a settlement commission. The scheme will be applicable to "pending applications in respect of which the applicant has not exercised the option under sub-section (1) of Section 245M of the Act.

### 6. SBI launches pre-approved 2-wheeler loan 'SBI Easy Ride' on YONO

The State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a pre-approved 2-wheeler loan scheme 'SBI Easy Ride' through its YONO platform. Eligible SBI customers can avail of end-to-end digital two-wheeler loans through the YONO app without visiting the bank branch.

### 7. IndiGo partners with Kotak Mahindra Bank to launch Ka-ching credit card

Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL) and IndiGo airlines announced that they have partnered to launch a co-branded credit card called Ka-ching under IndiGo's 6E rewards programme. The credit card will be launched in November 2021 and provide exclusive travel benefits to members.

Available in two variants - 6E Rewards, and 6E Rewards XL. IndiGo is the largest airline in India by passengers carried and fleet size.

### 8. Exim Bank listed billion-dollar 10-year bond on AFRINEX

Export-Import Bank of India has listed its \$1-billion 10-year bond on the Mauritius-based pan-African exchange AFRINEX. The transaction at a coupon of 2.25 per cent per annum, marked a record low for any Indian issuer for a 10-year US dollar issuance. This issue was 3.5 times oversubscribed by several high-quality investors.

EXIM Bank:- Founded in: 1982 Headquarters:- Mumbai

### 9. Bandhan Bank ropes in Zubeen Garg as brand ambassador for Assam

Bandhan Bank has announced Popular Assamese & Bollywood singer Zubeen Garg as the brand ambassador for the Bank in Assam.

This association is a landmark one for Bandhan Bank as this is the first time ever that the Bank has associated with a brand ambassador since its inception six years back.

Bandhan Bank HQ:- Kolkata, West Bengal; Founder: Chandra Shekhar Ghosh; Founded: 2001

### 10. SBI launches 'Video Life Certificate' facility for pensioners

The State Bank of India has launched a video life certificate service for pensioners. This new facility will allow pensioners to submit their life certificates via video from their homes.

This facility is available for pensioners (other than family pensioners). Thus, spouse of the pensioner receiving a pension from the government will not be able to use this facility.

#### [11. Unity Small Finance Bank commences operations as small finance bank](#)

Unity Small Finance Bank, the joint venture between Centrum Group and Bharatpe has commenced operations as a small finance bank.

Unity Bank will be a digital-first bank with a business model of collaboration and open architecture, uniting all its stakeholders to deliver a seamless digital experience. Bharatpe was co-founded by Ashneer Grover and ShashvatNakrani in 2018.

#### [12. Junio ties up with RuPay for debit card for pre-teens, teenagers](#)

Children-focussed fintech, Junio, has launched a smart multipurpose card for pre-teens and teenagers on the RuPay platform.

The Junio RuPay Card is designed for kids and can function as a debit card for both their online and offline purchases.

Kids and parents can sign up on the Junio app, and use virtual Junio smart cards with zero annual charges. Junio Smart Card will allow youngsters to make online & offline payment with ease.

#### [13. RBI launches its first global hackathon 'HARBINGER 2021' with 'Smarter Digital Payments' theme](#)

The Reserve Bank of India has announced the launch of its first global hackathon 'HARBINGER 2021 ' Innovation for Transformation' with the theme 'Smarter Digital Payments'.

The hackathon will invite participants to identify and develop solutions that have the potential to make digital payments accessible to the under-served, enhance the ease of payments and user experience. The winner will get Rs 40 L & runner-up will get Rs 20 L. (Registration starts on 15 Nov)

#### [14. Indian Bank launches video KYC facility enabled by VCIP technology](#)

Indian Bank has launched the Video KYC (know your customer) facility, which allows an applicant to open an account from anywhere by incorporating its Video-Based Customer Identification Process (VCIP) technology, on its web-based platforms.

The initiative would dispense with the need for a personal visit to any branch of the bank to complete the physical verification.

#### [15. RBI removes ban on Diners Club International while restriction on Mastercard, American Express continues](#)

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has lifted a ban on payment system operator Diners Club International, which means the card company can now onboard new clients. In India, Diners Club has partnered with HDFC Bank.

On 2021 April 23, the central bank had banned the US-based company from onboarding new domestic customers onto its card network for violating data storage norms.

#### [16. RBI puts restrictions on Babaji Date MahilaSahakari Bank, imposes Rs 5,000 withdrawal limit](#)

RBI has imposed strict restrictions on business activities on Maharashtra-based Babaji Date MahilaSahakari Bank including imposing a withdrawal limit of Rs 5,000 for depositors.

This is the latest instance of the central bank clamping down on a co-operative bank.

From the close of business on Nov 8, 2021, the bank cannot issue new loans or accept fresh deposits.

#### [17. India Post Payments Bank, Department of Posts in Strategic Alliance with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance for Term & Annuity Products](#)

India Post Payments Bank, Department of Posts & Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance co. has announced a strategic partnership for offering term and annuity products to customers through the Bank's extensive network.

Term & Annuity Products viz. Bajaj Allianz Smart Protect Goal & Bajaj Allianz Guaranteed - Pension Goal of Both the products available on easy to sell POS platform. IPPB:- wholly owned by the Government of India through Department of Post.

#### [18. PM Narendra Modi launches RBI's integrated ombudsman scheme.](#)

The integrated ombudsman scheme amalgamates 3 ombudsman scheme of RBI- banking ombudsman scheme of 2006, ombudsman scheme for NBFCs of 2018 & ombudsman scheme of digital transactions of 2019.

The scheme strengthens the grievance redress mechanism for consumers of different regulated entities like Banks, NBFCs and payments system operators.

The Integrated Ombudsman Scheme is based on 'One Nation One Lokpal'.

#### 19. PM Narendra Modi launches RBI Retail Direct Scheme

Individuals can now directly purchase treasury bills, dated securities, sovereign gold bonds and state development loans from primary as well as secondary markets as per the RBI Retail Direct Scheme through a Retail Direct Gilt Account (RDG) with RBI.

#### 20. SEBI lays down rules for mutual funds to manage silver ETFs

Just like Gold ETFs, SEBI also wants mutual funds to arrive at the value of silver as per the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA).

SEBI has stated that the silver held by a silver exchange traded fund (ETF) should be valued at the "AM fixing price of London Bullion Market Association in US dollars per troy ounce for silver having a fineness of 999.0 parts per thousand"

#### 21. BharatPe to launch Merchant Shareholding Program(MSP) for its merchant partners.

BharatPe will be rolling out this MSP to its 7.5 million+ existing merchant partners and extend this to new merchants who join it.

It plans to create an equity pool structure worth upto \$100 mn for MSP to be allotted to eligible merchants over the course of the next 4 years. The company is aiming that the MSP pool will be worth close to \$ 1bn by the time it goes public. BharatPe(estd 2018): HQ: New Delhi; Co-founders:Ashneer Grover and ShashvnatNakrani.

#### 22. MobiKwik launches RuPay Card in partnership with NPCI, Axis Bank.

The card will be offered free of charge to customers and will be fully digital keeping in line with the growing demand for digital payments across online and brick and mortar stores.

Customers will now be able to get up to Rs 2 lakhs of their MobiKwik wallet balance mirrored on the MobiKwikRuPay Prepaid Card.

#### 23. RBI Asks Select Non-Banking Finance Companies To Appoint Ombudsman

Reserve Bank of India has directed Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) to appoint an Internal Ombudsman within 6 months.

Deposit-taking NBFCs with more than 10 branches and non-deposit-taking NBFCs with an asset size of a minimum of 5 thousand Crore rupees have been asked to appoint an internal ombudsman within 6 months.

#### 24. Karnataka Bank launches premium product for SME businesses

Mangaluru-headquartered private sector lender has kicked off a CASA campaign (current account/savings account) campaign and launched a new KBL Current Account'Premium scheme targeting small and medium entrepreneurs.

The scheme allows customers to have a new current account by maintaining a monthly average balance of Rs 25,000 and avail a host of premium facilities

#### 25. RBI authorises RBL Bank to collect direct taxes

RBL Bank has been authorised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), based on a recommendation from the Controller General of Accounts, Ministry of Finance and Government of India (GoI), to collect direct taxes on behalf of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

RBL Bank, formerly known as Ratnakar Bank - It is an Indian private sector bank headquartered in Mumbai.

#### 26. PM to inaugurate IFSCA's InFinity Forum on 3rd December 2021

PM Modi will inaugurate the 'InFinity Forum', a 2-day thought leadership Forum on FinTech, on 3rd December 2021. The event is being hosted by International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) under the aegis of GoI in collaboration with GIFT City and Bloomberg on December 3 and 4, 2021, in virtual mode. Indonesia, South Africa and the U.K. are partner countries. IFSCA: Statutory authority established in 2020 with HQ in Gandhinagar

#### 27. Union Bank of India Ranks 3rd in PSB reforms

Union Bank of India ranked 3rd amongst 12 PSBs in EASE 4.0 Reforms Index for Q1 FY22, as per the rank list released by Indian Banks' Association (IBA). The Bank has been actively adopting the reforms initiatives recommended under the EASE Agenda enabling it to retain the overall position of Second Runner Up from the last three consecutive quarters since December 2020. EASE is an initiative by the Department of Financial Services (DFS).

#### 28. SBI Research upgrades India's GDP growth estimate for financial year 2022

SBI Research has upgraded India's GDP growth projection for financial year 2022 to the range of 9.3%-9.6% from its earlier estimates of 8.5%-9%. The revised GDP estimate of SBI Research is in-line with

RBI's projection of 9.5% GDP growth for the current fiscal year. country recorded only 11% increase in Covid-19 cases during July-September quarter 2021

#### 29. BCIC's expert panel calls for efforts to link fintech firms & banks to step up support to MSMEs

A five-member expert committee of the Bangalore Chamber of Industry & Commerce (BCIC), led by veteran investment banker PN Vijay, has called for efforts to sew up partnerships between fintech companies & banks to step up lending channels to the MSME sector.

20-page report urges the RBI to enable the MSME financing ecosystem with a long-term vision as it is rapidly evolving OCEN - open credit enablement network

#### 30. Deposits parked with co-operative credit societies not eligible for insurance cover: RBI

Reserve Bank has cautioned the public against co-operative societies using words 'bank', 'banker' or 'banking' as part of their names unless specifically permitted. It also clarified that deposits with these societies are not eligible for insurance cover.

Cooperative societies cannot use the words 'bank', 'banker' or 'banking' as part of their names. Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC)

#### 31. ICICI Bank launches 'Trade Emerge', a platform for Indian exporters, importers

ICICI Bank has announced the launch of its online platform, 'Trade Emerge', to offer comprehensive digital banking & value-added services to exporters and importers across India.

This digital facility is associated with 'India Filings', an online business and tax compliance platform. It will also help traders avail certain export benefits under India's Foreign Trade policy.

#### 32. Yes Bank ties-up with Amazon Pay, AWS to offer UPI services

Yes Bank has collaborated with Amazon Pay and Amazon Web Services (AWS) to offer customers an instant payment systems via Unified Payment Interface (UPI).

The integration will enable Amazon Pay to issue UPI IDs with the @yapl handle and allow customers to make secure, fast and convenient payments.

#### 33. RBI imposes Rs 1 crore fine on State Bank of India

The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1 crore on the State Bank of India after an inspection found that the bank had held shares in borrower companies, as pledgee, of an amount exceeding 30% of paid-up share capital of those companies in contravention of RBI guidelines. The Statutory Inspections for Supervisory Evaluation of the bank was conducted by RBI.

#### 34. Exim Bank commits \$100 million loan for Covid vaccines in FY 22

Export-Import Bank of India has committed loans worth \$100 million for domestic manufacturers of Covid-19 vaccines or related products.

The loans are also being extended to other countries. With vaccine portfolio size of \$250 million in Africa, this will be an advantage for Indian firms as the financing mandates Africa to source vaccines and related products only from India.

#### 35. RBI panel for higher cap on promoter stake in pvt banks at 26% after 15 yrs

RBI accepted most of the recommendations (21 out of 33) of its working group on corporate ownership of private sector banks, by allowing unrestrained promoter shareholding in the first five years of operations and hiking the same to 26% after 15 years from the extant 15% and also the new capital requirements.

RBI constituted the working group on June 12, 2020.

#### 36. HSBC India launches recycled PVC plastic credit card

HSBC India has launched India's first credit card made from recycled PVC plastic. This roll-out is part of a new programme launched by HSBC Group to introduce sustainable cards across all its global locations with a view to supporting its global commitments to sustainability & a net-zero future. Made from 85% recycled plastic, the new cards will help save 3.18 gm of plastic.

#### 37. ESAF Bank launches electric vehicle loan scheme 'Go green'

The Thrissur-based ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited has announced the latest 'ESAF Go Green' range of electric vehicle loan schemes. The launch coincides with COP26.

ESAF Go green loans are available at a low-interest rate, with zero foreclosure charges, minimal processing fees, and zero documentation charges.

## Economy

### 1. Centre releases balance Rs 44,000 crore to states to meet GST compensation shortfall

The Centre has released the balance Rs 44,000 crore to states under the back-to-back loan facility in lieu of GST compensation, taking the total to Rs 1.59 lakh crore, the full amount that the government had planned to pay to states for FY 22 for compensation shortfall. The government had released Rs 75,000 crore in July and Rs 40,000 crore in October.

### 2. SEBI forms IT project advisory committee to provide technical expertise

SEBI has constituted IT Projects Advisory Committee that will advise the markets regulator on projects aimed to utilize advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, data analytics, and cloud computing. The seven-member committee will provide guidance to upgrade the existing SEBI's IT systems and solutions. The seven-member committee is headed by Abhay Karandikar, a director IIT Kanpur.

### 3. BSE joins hand with HDFC Bank to promote startup, SME listing

BSE announced it has collaborated with private sector lender HDFC Bank to further encourage and promote the listing of startups and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) across India. Through this pact, HDFC Bank and BSE will evaluate banking and lending solutions for startups, undergoing a listing process on startups and SME platforms.

### 4. Tata Steel BSL first company to export LD slag to Bangladesh for cement making

Tata Steel BSL has exported 9,000 tonnes of LD slag, a by-product of manufacturing the metal, to Bangladesh, in the first such shipment from India to the neighbouring country.

It shipped out the product through Dhamra Port to the Bangladesh market from its unit in Odisha's Dhenkanal district.

LD (Linz-Donawitz) slag is produced during the steel-making process.

India's first export of LD slag to Bangladesh.

### 5. SHIB and DOGE record the highest trading volume on Indian exchanges

Meme cryptocurrencies Dogecoin (DOGE) and Shiba Inu (SHIB) have emerged as India's most-traded digital assets on the country's crypto exchanges.

On CoinSwitchKuber exchange, between April and October 2021, Dogecoin accounted for 13.76% of the platform's total trading volume, followed by Ethereum's 6.06%, while Bitcoin ranked third at 6.04%. The Dogecoin rival, Shiba Inu, has not yet been listed on CoinSwitchKuber.

### 6. FinMin issues uniform staff accountability framework to protect bonafide decisions of bankers

To protect the people taking bonafide business decisions, the finance ministry has issued a uniform staff accountability framework for NPA accounts up to Rs 50 crore.

These guidelines shall be implemented with effect from April 1, 2022, for accounts turning non-performing assets (NPAs) beginning next financial year.

### 7. ADB approves 61-million-dollar loan for urban development in Agartala

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a 61-million-dollar loan for development of urban areas in the capital city of Tripura ' Agartala.

ADB approved a \$61 million loan and \$1 million technical assistance (TA) grant for the urban development in Agartala.

This loan will be used to upgrade 48 kms of stormwater drainage and construct 23 kms of climate-resilient roads. Tripura CM: Biplab Kumar Deb; Governor: Satyadev Narayan Arya

### 8. ADB approves \$250 million loan for India's industrial corridor development

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 250 million (about Rs 1,875 crore) loan to support India's National Industrial Corridor Development Program (NICDP).

This is the first subprogram of the programmatic USD 500 million loan to develop 11 industrial corridors spanning 17 states. The national programme also seeks strong institutional and regulatory frameworks.

### 9. RBI gives go-ahead to FPIs to invest in InvITs, REITs

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given a go-ahead to Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) acquiring debt securities issued by Infrastructure investment Trusts (InvITs) and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs).

Necessary amendments to Foreign Exchange Management (Debt Instruments) Regulations 2019, were earlier notified in October.

#### 10. NPCI arm, Network International join hands for UPI payment system in UAE

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) said its international arm NIPL and global digital commerce enabler Network International have signed an agreement for a mobile-based real-time payment system in the UAE.

Network International enables digital commerce across the Middle East and Africa.

NPCI- an initiative of the Reserve Bank of India and Indian Banks' Association.

#### 11. Union Minister for MSME launched Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (SCLCSS) for Services Sector

Shri Narayan Rane has launched SCLCSS which will help in meeting the technology related requirements of enterprises in the services sector and has a provision of 25% capital subsidy for procurement of Plant & Machinery and service equipment through institutional credit to the SC-ST MSEs without any sector specific restrictions on technology upgradation. Share of MSME GVA in all India GDP for FY20 is 30%. Share in exports is nearly 48%.

#### 12. EPFO plans to invest 5% of annual deposits on InvITs, alternative funds

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), its the meeting of its Central Board of Trustees (CBT), has approved measures to invest up to 5 per cent of its annual deposits in infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs) and other alternative funds. The CBT empowered Finance Investment and Audit Committee (FIAC) to decide upon the investment options. EPFO invests majority of its investments in Government securities.

#### 13. Centre puts on sale MTNL, BSNL assets worth about '1,100 cr

As per the documents uploaded on the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) website, the Centre has listed for sale real estate assets of the struggling government-owned telecom giants MTNL and BSNL at a reserve price of nearly '1,100 crore. The asset monetisation is part of the '69,000 crore revival scheme for MTNL and BSNL. BSNL and MTNL are the only two state-owned telecom companies in India.



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## National

### [1. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare releases Third Advance Estimates of Area and Production of Horticultural Crops](#)

The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has released 2020-21 (Third Advance Estimates) of Area and Production of various Horticultural Crops, compiled on the information received from States/ UTs and other Governmental source agencies. Horticulture production in the year 2020-21 is estimated to be a record 331.05 million tonnes. This shows an increase of 3.3%. Shri Narendra Singh Tomar is the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

### [2. India committed to achieve over 40% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil-fuel energy resources by 2030](#)

Power Ministry has said that India is committed to achieve more than 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil-fuel energy resources by 2030. The Ministry said, government has identified new areas to achieve higher levels of penetration of Renewable energy by proposing certain Amendments to Energy Conservation Act, 2001.

### [3. Union Education Minister launches Bhasha Sangam initiative for schools, Bhasha Sangam Mobile App and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bhar](#)

Bhasha Sangam is an initiative of the Ministry of Education under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, to teach basic sentences of everyday usage in 22 Indian languages. The idea is that people should acquire basic conversational skills in an Indian language other than their mother tongue. Bhasha Sangam Mobile App was developed in collaboration with myGov, by a start-up Multibhashi. Bhasha Sangam Initiative for schools is developed by NCERT.

### [4. MoS IT Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurates the first Internet Exchange for Uttarakhand in Dehradun](#)

MoS IT Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated the 10th internet exchange of NIXI in India. It will help in enhancing and improving the quality of Internet and Broadband services in Uttarakhand. This exchange at Dehradun not only will benefit the netizens of Dehradun but promote the arrival of more Internet Service Providers and more Content Delivery network at Dehradun. Next Internet Exchange in Uttarakhand will be at Nainital District.

### [5. Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inaugurates 'Ganga Utsav 2021 ' The River Festival'](#)

The 5th edition of Ganga Utsav began virtually with much fun and festivities. The much-awaited Ganga Utsav 2021 The River Festival will not only celebrate the glory of the river Ganga but all the rivers of the country. Taking inspiration from the Prime Minister's call for 'Nadi Utsav' i.e. celebrating rivers, the aim is to take Ganga Utsav to all the river basins in India. Continuous Learning and Activity Portal (CLAP) developed by NMCG was launched.

### [6. BijliUtsav' organized by REC in Kevadia as part of AzadiKaAmritMahotsav](#)

As part of 'AzadiKaAmritMahotsav' ' to celebrate 75 years of Independence and in remembrance of the Iron Man of India Shri Vallabh bhai Patel, REC Limited, a public sector company under the Ministry of Power organized a 'BijliUtsav' near Statue of Unity in Kevadia, Gujarat. The event concluded with the distribution of LED bulbs as prizes to the winners of the competitions.

### [7. Shipping Minister Shri Sonowal inaugurates Valiyazhikkal Lighthouse in Kerala](#)

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated a new Lighthouse at Valiyazhikkal in Alappuzha district of Kerala. Construction of the lighthouse will immensely benefit the mariners plying in this Kerala region and the local fishermen will benefit for Daymark in the day time and Safe return in Night time from the sea.

### [8. IOC to set up India's first mega-scale Maleic Anhydride Plant at Panipat](#)

Indian Oil Corp (IOC) will invest Rs 3,681 crore in setting up India's first mega-scale Maleic Anhydride Plant to manufacture value-added chemical products at its Panipat refinery and petroleum complex (PRPC) in Haryana. The project is proposed to have a capacity of 120,000 tonnes per annum of Maleic Anhydride (MAH). The plant will also manufacture 20,000 tonnes a year of 1,4-Butanediol (BDO).

### [9. India Inc's top companies join the India-UK Climate Finance Initiative](#)

The Climate Finance Leadership Initiative launched jointly by the UK and India in September this year to support climate and green energy projects in India will have leading Indian and global business groups as founding members. CFLI India members include Tata Sons, GIC Private Limited, Goldman

Sachs, HDFC Bank, HSBC, Kotak Mahindra Bank, L&T, SBI, and Macquarie Group. These investments will support India's target of 450 Gw renewable energy by 2030.

#### 10. NHAI InvIT attracts marquee institutional investors

National Highways Authority of India ('NHAI') has the largest share under the National Monetisation Pipeline. NHAI announced the launch of its InvIT as a mode to monetise road projects. The InvIT will initially have a portfolio of five operating toll roads with an aggregate length of 390 kilometers, with more roads planned to be added later. The total enterprise value of the initial portfolio of 5 roads is pegged at Rs.8011.52 cr

#### 11. RK Singh launches Green Day Ahead Market (GDAM)

The introduction of the new market segment "Green Day Ahead Market or GDAM" is expected to create a domino effect that will lead to a gradual shift from PPA-based contract to market-based models which will build and deepen the markets to the next level, paving the way for India to meet its ambitious target of 450 GW green capacity by 2030.

#### 12. DGCA's New E-governance Platform Called 'e-GCA' Launched By Aviation Minister

The nation is celebrating the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' to commemorate 75 years of Independence. On this occasion, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Union Minister of Civil Aviation dedicated eGCA, the e-governance platform in Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to the nation.

DGCA has implemented its e-governance platform eGCA.

#### 13. Union Health Minister Dr.MansukhMandaviya inaugurates 32nd edition of 'HunarHaat' in Lucknow

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare and Chemical and Fertilizers Dr.MansukhMandaviya inaugurated the 32nd edition of 'HunarHaat', 'Perfect Platform' to 'promote and preserve' traditional art and craft of the country, in Lucknow.

#### 14. TVS Motor: First Indian two-wheeler maker in United Nations Global Compact

The TVS Motor company has become the first Indian two-wheeler and three-wheeler manufacturer to be a part of UN Global Compact, a voluntary initiative based on CEO commitments to implement universal sustainability principles.

TVS Motor Company will now support the principles of the United Nations Global Compact on human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption. United Nations Global Compact is the world's largest sustainability initiative.

#### 15. PM Modi inaugurates Redeveloped Rani Kamlapati Railway Station in Bhopal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the redeveloped Rani Kamlapati Railway Station in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

The redeveloped Rani Kamlapati Railway station, named after brave and fearless Queen Kamalapati of the Gond kingdom, is the first world class railway station in Madhya Pradesh.

The station is also developed as a hub for integrated multi-modal transport.

#### 16. Union Minister ParshottamRupala to launch Nationwide AHDF KCC Campaign

Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying ParshottamRupala will launch a Nationwide AHDF KCC Campaign in hybrid mode.

The Campaign aims to expand the benefits of Kisan Credit Card to all eligible animal husbandry and fishery farmers in the country.

Union Ministers of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, & Dairying: Dr.Sanjeev Kumar Balyan and Dr. L. Murugan

#### 17. Union Home Minister Amit Shah chairs 29th Southern Zonal Council meet in Tirupati

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is chairing the Southern Zonal Council meeting at Tirupati in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh.

Southern Zonal Council comprises Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, and Union Territories of Puducherry, Lakshadweep, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Representatives from the southern states and union territories are attending the meeting.

#### 18. Center to launch week-long awareness campaign on SafaiMitra Suraksha Challenge

As part of the World Toilet Day celebrations on 19th November every year, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development will launch a week-long awareness campaign on SafaiMitra Suraksha Challenge. A total of 246 cities are participating in SafaiMitra Suraksha Challenge which is being conducted across the country. The aim of it is to encourage cities to mechanise their sewer and septic tank cleaning.

### [19. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurates 40th IITF at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi](#)

Commerce and Industry minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated the 40th IITF and said initiatives of the India International Trade Fair (IITF) are reflective of the resilience of the Indian economy bouncing back.

IITF trade fair is one of the finest and the country's largest convention centres which will come up in the Pragati Maidan complex. The theme of 2021's fair is AtmaNirbhar Bharat.

### [20. The Nation celebrates birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15th November](#)

The Nation celebrates birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15th November.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Smriti Udayan Sah SwantantraSenaniSangrahalaya in Ranchi on 15th November.

PM will also address the Tribal Pride Day Mahasammelan. Also on November 15, Jharkhand celebrates its foundation day.

### [21. PM to address the event marking celebration of first Audit Diwas](#)

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will address the event marking the first Audit Diwas at CAG office premises, on 16th November, 2021.

Audit Diwas is celebrated to mark the historic origins of the institution of CAG (Comptroller and Auditor General of India) and the contribution it has made to the governance, transparency and accountability over the past several years. The CAG of India is the Constitutional Authority in India, under article 148.

### [22. Three-day 'Rashtra Raksha SamparpanParv' to be held in Jhansi](#)

3-day Rashtra Raksha SamparpanParv will be held in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

19th of November is the Birth Anniversary of Rani Lakshmi Bai, the epitome of bravery and courage and a great National icon of Rashtra Raksha and India's Independence struggle.

### [23. PM Modi to inaugurate First Global Innovation Summit of Pharmaceuticals sector](#)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the First Global Innovation Summit of the Pharmaceuticals sector. Chemical and Fertilizers Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya will also be present on the occasion. It will highlight the opportunities in the Indian pharma industry that has huge growth potential.

### [24. Union Minister Giriraj Singh inaugurates 'Bhumi Samvaad' - National Workshop on DILRMP](#)

Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh inaugurated 'Bhumi Samvaad' - National Workshop on Digital India Land Record Modernisation Programme (DILRMP) in New Delhi. The Minister also launched the National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) portal and Dashboard which is an advanced software application for the registration system.

### [25. Union Minister Arjun Munda inaugurates TRIFED Aadi Mahotsav in New Delhi](#)

Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda inaugurated TRIFED Aadi Mahotsav at Dilli Haat in New Delhi, in the presence of Sukhram Munda, Grandson of Bhagwan Birsa Munda. On the occasion olympic medalist and boxer Padma Vibhushan MC Mary Kom was declared as brand ambassador of the TRIFED Aadi Mahotsav. 1000 tribal artisans from 26 states are participating in this.

### [26. Prime Minister to address inaugural session of 82nd All India Presiding Officers' Conference in Shimla](#)

PM Narendra Modi will address the inaugural session of 82nd All India Presiding Officers' Conference. The All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC), the apex body of the Legislatures in India, is celebrating its hundred years in 2021. To commemorate the centennial year of AIPOC, the 82nd edition of the All India Presiding Officers' Conference will be held in Shimla. The first Conference was also held in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh in 1921.

### [27. Piyush Goyal inaugurates the 50th Convocation Ceremony of National Sugar Institute, Kanpur](#)

The Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution & Textiles, Piyush Goyal inaugurated 50th Convocation Ceremony of National Sugar Institute, Kanpur as a part of celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav being organised by Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD). The Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology was established in Oct, 1936 In April 1957, the name of the Institute was again changed to National Sugar Institute.

### [28. Country's first fisheries business incubator launched in Haryana's Gurugram costing Rs. 3.23 crore](#)

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Shri Parshottam Rupala inaugurated the country's first-of-its kind, dedicated business incubator to be known as LINAC- NCDC Fisheries Business Incubation Centre (LIFIC) in Haryana's Gurugram costing Rs. 3.23 crore to nurture fisheries start-ups under real market-led conditions.

### [29. IntelliSmart bags Rs 500-cr order from Assam govt to install 6 lakh smart meters](#)

Smart metering company IntelliSmart has won a Rs 500 crore order from the Assam government to install about six lakh smart meters in the state. In this regard, a Letter of Award (LoA) was awarded to the company from the Assam Power Distribution Company Ltd (APDCL) to install the meters in 19 circles, Anil Rawal, MD and CEO, IntelliSmart.

### [30. MoFPI signs MoU with Department of Animal husbandry and Dairying to improve livestock sector](#)

An MoU was signed between the Department of Animal husbandry (DAHD) and Dairying and the Ministry of Food Processing Industry (MoFPI). This MoU will facilitate extension of benefits to dairy entrepreneurs and dairy industries through convergence of various schemes of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

### [31. SC allows Centre to disinvest its remaining shares in Hindustan Zinc Ltd](#)

The Supreme Court has allowed the Central Government to disinvest its remaining shares in Hindustan Zinc Limited. The Bench of Justice D.Y. Chandrachud and A.S. Bopanna held that the Centre can disinvest the remaining 29.5 percent of its shares in Hindustan Zinc, since it is not a government company anymore.

### [32. India participates in 21st Annual Council of Ministers \(COM\) meeting](#)

India reaffirmed its strong commitment to strengthening Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) in the 21st Annual Council of Ministers (COM) meeting. The largest and pre-eminent organization in the Indian Ocean Region, is promoting peace, security, and prosperity in the region as well as in the wider Indo-Pacific. IORA COM was held in a hybrid format in Dhaka. At the end of this meeting, Dhaka Communique was adopted.

### [33. Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates Health Pavilion at India International Trade Fair in New Delhi](#)

Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the Health Pavilion at India International Trade Fair in New Delhi. The Minister reached the venue by riding a bicycle to generate awareness and promote a healthy active lifestyle in view of the rising burden of Non-Communicable Diseases, NCDs in the country. The theme of this year's Health Pavilion is to create awareness about lifestyle diseases,

### [34. Cabinet approves USOF scheme for provision of mobile services in Uncovered Villages of Aspirational Districts across five states](#)

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has given its approval for provisioning of mobile services in Uncovered Villages of Aspirational Districts across five States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra & Odisha. The project would be funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). The project will be completed within 18 months after the signing of the Agreement.

### [35. NERCRMS bringing Waves of Transformation in North East Region of India](#)

North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Society (NERCRMS) is a registered society under the aegis of North Eastern Council, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region. The society is dedicated towards the transformation of far flung rural areas of North Eastern Region (NER) of India through different livelihood initiatives. The overall objective of the project is to "improve the livelihoods of vulnerable groups"

### [36. PM Modi to lay foundation stone of ultra mega solar park in Jhansi](#)

The Jhansi project is one of the three ultra-mega solar parks that are proposed to be set up in the region to generate 2,000 MW solar power in "plug and play mode" under the Centre's Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks (UMREPP) scheme. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of the 600 MW ultra-mega solar park in Jhansi.

### [37. Geographical Information System \(GIS\) plans for around 75% Gram Panchayats completed](#)

The Ministry of Rural Development has reached milestone with the completion of Geographical Information System (GIS) plans for 2 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) out of 2.69 lakh GPs under MGNREGA using remote sensing technology based on the ridge to valley approach. GIS-based planning helps the Gram Panchayat to ensure a scientific & holistic approach for planning. The GIS is a computer-based tool for mapping and analyzing the geographic terrain.

### 38. PM Modi laid foundation Stone of 50 new Eklavya Model Residential Schools on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas

The construction drive of Eklavya schools got a big boost after the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid foundation of 50 schools on 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas' as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav on 15th November 2021 virtually from Bhopal. These schools are being set up in 26 districts of 7 States and 1 UT. Union Budget 2021 aims to set up 750 EMRSs across India.

### 39. Union Education Minister inaugurates Centres for nano technology and Indian Knowledge System at IIT Guwahati

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the state-of-the-art Centre for Nanotechnology and Centre for Indian Knowledge System at IIT Guwahati. He also released a book on NEP 2020 implementation. Assam Education Minister Ranaj Pegu was present on the occasion. IIT Guwahati has achieved excellent rankings in various national and international ranking system.

### 40. Tribal Affairs Ministry, CBSE jointly launch online certificate course on Experiential Learning for 21st Century for EMRS & CBSE

Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Central Board of Secondary Education, CBSE jointly launched an online certificate course on Experiential Learning for the 21st Century for Eklavya Model Residential School and CBSE teachers. It was jointly launched by Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Anil Kumar Jha and CBSE Chairman Manoj Ahuja. Certificate course is for capacity building of educators to achieve the aims of NEP 2020.

### 41. HM Amit Shah to lay foundation stone of Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum in Manipur

Home Minister Amit Shah will lay the Foundation Stone for setting up of the Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum at Luangkao village in Manipur's Tamenglong district. The project has been sanctioned by the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs at an estimated cost of 15 crore rupees.

### 42. Shri Shantanu Thakur inaugurates projects at Haldia Dock Complex

Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shantanu Thakur inaugurated a number of projects at the Haldia Dock Complex of Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata.

These include: a) Improved Storm Water disposal & Widening of Roads, b) inclusion of 41000 sq.m of Cargo Handling area, c) Upgrading & landscaping of Port Guest House, and d) New ICU & Emergency Wards.

### 43. Dr Jitendra Singh launches India's first Virtual Science Lab for Children under CSIR Jigyasa Programme

Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched India's first Virtual Science Lab for Children under CSIR Jigyasa Programme, which will also connect students with scientists across the country. The main aim of the Virtual Lab is to provide quality research exposure and innovative pedagogy for school students based on an online interactive medium. Virtual Lab will provide virtual tour of CSIR labs & expose students to research.

### 44. Bhupender Yadav flags off first ever All India Survey on Domestic Workers

Union Minister for Labour and Employment, Shri Bhupender Yadav flagged off the first ever All India Survey on Domestic workers being conducted by Labour Bureau, Chandigarh. Domestic workers (DWs) constitute a significant portion of total employment in the informal sector. However, there is a dearth of data on the magnitude and prevailing employment conditions of DWs. eSHRAM portal - a centralized database of unorganized workers seeded with Aadhar.

### 45. Railways to start theme-based Bharat Gaurav trains

The Indian Railways is in the process of finalising theme-based tourist circuit trains through private and state-owned service providers in a move to display the country's rich cultural heritage.

To promote the first-of-its-kind theme-based trains, the railways have dedicated more than 3,000 AC and non-AC coaches of various categories to run around 190 tourist circuits. The first Bharat Gaurav train may begin by January, 2022.

### 46. 20-Member Empowered Secretaries Group Set Up by Govt to Implement PM GatiShakti Master Plan

The government has constituted an Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS), headed by the Cabinet Secretary and comprising the heads of 19 ministries or departments, which will be a monitoring mechanism for the development and implementation of the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan (NMP). PM Gati Shakti - National Master Plan for Multi-modal Connectivity.

#### [47. MoS for AyushMunjparaMahedrabbhai inaugurates Ayurveda Parv-2021](#)

Minister of State for AyushMunjparaMahedrabbhai inaugurated the Ayurveda Parv-2021 in New Delhi. The three-day event has been organised to promote Ayurveda. An exhibition has been arranged with 40 stalls and participation of Pharmaceutical companies.

Ayurveda Parv has been organized for proper utilization of Ayurvedic health care and coordination in research & education.

#### [48. NTPC Renewable Energy signs PPA for 325 MW solar projects](#)

NTPC Renewable Energy, a wholly-owned subsidiary of NTPC, India's largest integrated energy company has signed a PPA (power purchase agreement) and other project agreements with Indian Railways, Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company (MPPMCL), and Rewa Ultra Mega Solar (RUMSL) for 325 MW Solar Projects being installed in the RUMSL at Shajapur Solar Park in Madhya Pradesh. It is the state-run power giant NTPC's arm.

#### [49. Vedanta's Sesa Goa iron ore biz pledges to become carbon neutral by 2050](#)

Vedanta's Sesa Goa iron ore business is looking to achieve carbon net neutrality by 2050.

In line with the country's larger vision of a net zero carbon economy, the company has devised a comprehensive plan to achieve this goal.

Sesa Goa plans to achieve carbon net neutrality in a phased manner with a target to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions up to 25% by 2030.

#### [50. ARCI signs agreement to support Indigenisation of Lithium-Ion Battery Technology fabrication](#)

International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), an Autonomous R&D Centre of Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India and Nsure Reliable Power Solutions, Bengaluru signed an agreement for technical transfer know-how and training of personnel to set up the Li-ion battery fabrication lab. A fabrication lab for Li-ion batteries will soon be set up in Bangalore in an attempt to

#### [51. Gala Inauguration of 'Textiles Week' at India Pavillion in Dubai Expo 2020](#)

The 'Textiles Week' was inaugurated at India Pavillion in 'DUBAI EXPO' 2020. An interactive session on the 'Sourcing and Investment Destination for Textiles Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme - A Game Changer' was also organised at the Dubai Expo. The objective of the interaction was to project India's commitment towards attracting investments in the Textile Sector.

#### [52. Govt launches pilot projects to revive and catalyze traditional Namda Craft and upskill the Artisans and Weavers of Kashmir](#)

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has launched two pilot projects with a view to revive and catalyze the traditional Namda Craft and upskill the Artisans and Weavers of Kashmir. The projects are Revival of Namda craft of Kashmir as a special pilot project under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 3.0 and Upskilling of artisans and weavers of Kashmir. The upskilling will be done under Recognition of Prior Learning(RPL) a component of PMKVY

#### [53. HunarHaat receives India International Trade Fair, 2021 Silver Medal for strengthening commitment to 'Vocal for Local'](#)

The HUNAR HAAT, organized by the Ministry of Minority Affairs at New Delhi, received the prestigious India International Trade Fair, 2021 Silver Medal for strengthening commitment to 'Vocal for Local' and its strong presence at the Trade Fair. Lakhs of people visited 'HunarHaat' at Pragati Maidan where sale of indigenous products worth crores of rupees took place.

#### [54. World's tallest railway bridge pier to come up in Manipur](#)

The Indian Railways is constructing the world's tallest bridge pier in Manipur which is a part of 111 km long Jiribam-Imphal railway project.

The bridge, which is being built at a pier height of 141 metres, will surpass the existing record of 139 meter of Mala - Rijeka viaduct, Montenegro in Europe.

The work on the bridge will be completed by December 2023.

## International

### 1. Microsoft stock becomes world's most valuable; beating Apple

Microsoft's stock becomes world's most valuable after its share rose as much as 1.1% to hit a market value of 2.46 trillion Dollars blowing past Apple in October last week. The drop in Apple Inc.'s shares propelled Microsoft Corp. to the position of the world's largest listed company by market capitalization. Satya Nadella is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Microsoft.

### 2. Yahoo pulls out of China, cites 'challenging' operating environment

Yahoo Inc. announced that it has pulled out of China, citing an increasingly challenging operating environment. The withdrawal was largely symbolic, as many of the company's services were already blocked by China's digital censorship. The company's move comes as the American and Chinese governments feud over technology and trade. Yahoo is the latest foreign tech company to exit China.

### 3. WHO approves Bharat Biotech's Covaxin for emergency use

Covaxin was found to have 78 percent efficacy against COVID-19 of any severity, 14 or more days after the second dose. The World Health Organisation (WHO) approved Covaxin, the COVID-19 vaccine developed by Indian pharmaceutical firm Bharat Biotech Ltd, for emergency use.

### 4. U.S. returns 248 antiquities valued at \$15 million to India

The U.S. returned the 248 antiquities valued at an estimated \$15 million to India during a repatriation ceremony attended by India Consul General Randhir Jaiswal and U.S. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Deputy Special Agent in Charge Erik Rosenblatt.

### 5. Elon Musk's Starlink Satellite Internet Registers India Unit, Targets Rural Districts

Starlink, the satellite Internet division of billionaire Elon Musk's rocket company SpaceX, registered its business in India. Having a local unit, Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited, will allow the company to apply for licenses which it needs from the government before it can provide broadband and other satellite-based communication services.

### 6. Britain approves world's first oral pill to treat Covid-19

Britain's health regulators have approved the world's first pill to treat cases of symptomatic COVID-19. Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) said, the antiviral molnupiravir has been found to be safe and effective at reducing the risk of hospitalisation and death in people with mild to moderate COVID-19, who are at increased risk of developing disease.

### 7. US becomes 101st member country of International Solar Alliance

The US became the 101st member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), an inter-governmental organisation formed by India and France to accelerate the global adoption of solar power. The US special envoy for climate, John Kerry, announced at the COP26 in Glasgow that the US has joined the ISA as a member country after signing the framework agreement. ISA HQ: Gurugram; Director General: Ajay Mathur; Members: - 124 members of UN.

### 8. Dubai Airshow begins at Al Maktoum International Airport

The biggest-ever Dubai Airshow began at Al Maktoum International Airport, Dubai World Central, with more than 1,200 exhibitors taking part in the five-day show. Dubai Airshow is also the largest of its kind since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. The show also features more than 160 of the world's most advanced aircraft on the ground and in the air. Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent is also taking part in the Dubai Air Show.

### 9. First Indian Contingent Arrives In Antarctica For 41st Scientific Expedition

India has successfully launched the 41st scientific expedition to Antarctica with the arrival of the first batch of its contingent at the southern white continent.

The first batch comprising 23 scientists and support staff reached the Indian Antarctic station, Maitri, as per Ministry of Earth Sciences Indian Antarctic programme, which began in 1981, has completed 40 scientific expeditions.

### 10. India re-elected to UNESCO executive board for 2021-25 term

India gets reelected to the Executive Board of UNESCO with 164 votes for the term 2021-25, the Paris-based Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation). India has been reelected to the UNESCO Executive Board, one of the three constitutional organs of the United Nations, for the 2021-25 term. The election of members of the executive board took place in November 2021.

### 11. Venezuela claims Guinness World Record for largest orchestra

Venezuela's National System of Youth and Children's Orchestras known as "El Sistema" ' has set a new Guinness record for the world's largest orchestra with 8,573 musicians playing together, the country's government said on November 20. A week ago more than 12,000 musicians played a classical piece together for more than five minutes as they sought to beat Russian record. Guinness World Records started as an idea for a book of facts to solve arguments in pubs.

### 12. India-built Jaffna Cultural Centre awaits inauguration

Nearly two years after its construction, the India-funded Jaffna Cultural Centre in Sri Lanka's Northern Province awaits inauguration, amid persisting uncertainty over who will run the facility.

The structure, with 11 floors and facilities, including an auditorium that can seat 600 persons, a conference hall, an amphitheatre and a digital library, was completed in 2020. Jaffna is known in Tamil as Yalpanam and earlier known as Yalpanapattinam.

### 13. El Salvador Plans World's First Bitcoin City

El Salvador plans to build the world's first "Bitcoin City", funded initially by bitcoin-backed bonds.

El Salvador plans to issue \$1 billion in tokenised US-dollar denominated 10-year bonds to pay 6.5 per cent via the Liquid Network.

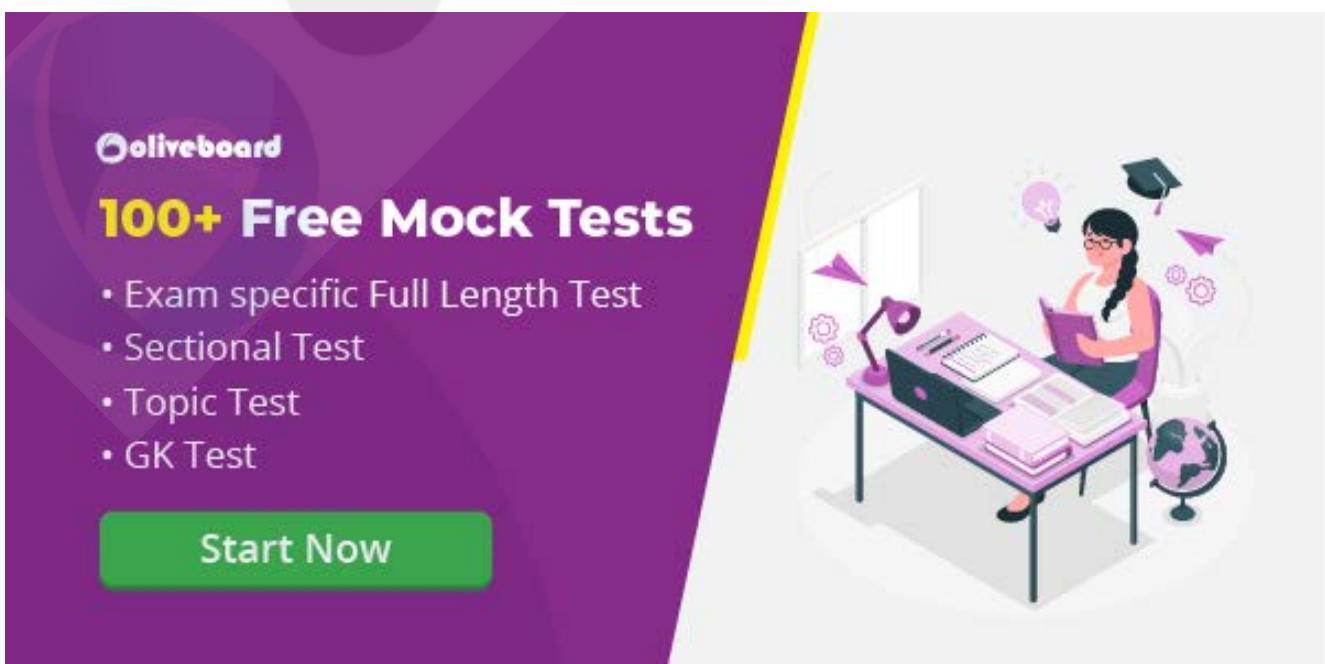
Half of the funds of the so-called 'volcano bond' will be converted to Bitcoin and the other half will be used for infrastructure. El Salvador (Central American country): President: NayibBukele, Capital: San Salvador.

### 14. WHO declares B.1.1.529 Covid variant as a variant of concern, names it Omicron

The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared SARS-CoV-2 variant: B.1.1.529 as a new variant of concern named Omicron.

The Technical Advisory Group on SARS-CoV-2 Virus Evolution (TAG-VE), an independent group of experts that monitors and evaluates the evolution of SARS-CoV-2 held a meeting.

This variant has a large number of mutations, some of which are concerning.




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## Sports

### 1. J&K team for deaf clinches 1st position in World Deaf Judo Championship

The J&K team for deaf clinched 1st position in World Deaf Judo Championship held at Paris Versailles, France. Rakshanda Mehak who is part of the Indian team for the deaf clinched the bronze medal by defeating the South Korean team in the semifinal. The championship was held at Versailles, France from 26-30th October 2021.

### 2. Rahul Dravid appointed as head coach of Indian men's cricket team

Former India captain Rahul Dravid has been appointed as the Head Coach of the senior Indian men's cricket team. Dravid takes over from Ravi Shastri, whose term ends after the ongoing ICC T20 World Cup. Dravid, among the finest batsmen India has produced, was unanimously appointed by the Cricket Advisory Committee.

### 3. Indian Boxer Akash Kumar settles for bronze after going down in semi-final at AIBA Men's World Championships

In AIBA Men's World Boxing Championships, Debutant Akash Kumar had to settle for bronze after going down in the 54 kg category semi-final against MakhmudSabyrkhan of Kazakhstan at Belgrade in Serbia. The 21-year-old Akash lost 0-5 to end India's campaign in the competition. Akash has become the seventh Indian male boxer to win a medal at the world championships. The 2021 AIBA World Boxing Championships is held in Belgrade, Serbia from 25 Oct to 6 Nov

### 4. Harbhajan Singh, Javagal Srinath get MCC life membership

India's Harbhajan Singh and Javagal Srinath have been awarded life membership of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), joining 16 other cricketers who were given the honour this year. The MCC, based at Lord's, is the custodian of cricket laws. Srinath, currently an ICC Elite Panel Match Referee, is one of the greatest fast bowlers with 315 ODI wickets and 236 Test wickets. MCC is a cricket club founded in 1787 and based since 1814 at Lord's ground in London.

### 5. Fabio Quartararo Becomes 2021 MotoGP World Champion

Yamaha factory rider Fabio Quartararo has been crowned the 2021 MotoGP World Champion after the stunning final stages of the Emilia Romagna Grand Prix saw Francesco Bagnaia crash out of the lead. Quartararo became the youngest Yamaha rider to clinch the premier class world title (aged 22 years, 187 days). He became the first French rider to clinch a premier class world title.

### 6. Indian GM P Iniyar wins the 5th Rujna Zora chess tournament

Indian Grandmaster P Iniyar emerged the winner in the 5th Rujna Zora chess tournament held here with seven points from nine rounds.

He had recently won an event in Spain and his performance enabled him to gain one Elo point.

His current FIDE rating is 2556.

The Indian GM finished with five wins and four draws and remained undefeated.

### 7. Srinagar's Tajamul Islam Wins Gold Medal In World Kickboxing Championship

Tjamul Islam, 13, is the first Kashmiri girl to have represented India and won the gold medal ' in the under-14 age category ' in World Kickboxing Championship held at Cairo in Egypt.

She was born in Tarkpora, a remote village in north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

Tjamul is also a brand ambassador of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme.

### 8. ISSF President's Cup: Manu Bhaker and Iran's Javad Foroughi win Air Pistol Mixed Team gold

India's pistol ace Manu Bhaker and Iran's reigning Olympics champion Javad Foroughi won the 10m air pistol mixed team gold at the inaugural ISSF President's Cup here. The pair got the better of France's Mathilde Lamolle and Russia's Artem Chernousov 16-8.

International Shooting Sport Federation President's Cup Rifle/Pistol in Wroclaw, Poland.

### 9. FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss: Firouzja and Lei triumph in Riga

Frenchman Alireza Firouzja won the 2021 FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss.

With this victory, Firouzja also secured a prize of 70,000 USD as well as a pass for the 2022 Candidates tournament, which will determine the challenger for the title of the World Champion in chess.

The inaugural Women's Grand Swiss ended with a Chinese victory as Lei Tingjie claimed first place.

### 10. Mitrabha Guha becomes India's 72nd Grand Master

Kolkata-based player Mitrabha Guha has become India's 72nd chess Grand Master by bagging his third and final GM norm during a tournament in Serbia.

Mitrabha, a resident of Tollygunge in Calcutta, now has 2511 Elo points but he wants to reach the 2650 mark.

Mitrabha had scored his second GM norm at the Sheikh Russel GM tournament in Bangladesh.

#### [11. Verstappen wins in the 2021 Mexico Grand Prix](#)

Red Bull's Max Verstappen celebrated a dominant win in the Mexico City Grand Prix to surge 19 points clear of Lewis Hamilton in the Formula One championship with four races remaining.

7-times world champion Hamilton was second for Mercedes, holding off Red Bull's Sergio Perez who became the 1st Mexican to stand on his home podium at a jubilant Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez.

#### [12. National Wrestling Championship: Sarita Mor beats Geeta Phogat](#)

Sarita Mor bagged the 59kg title with a victory over Geeta Phogat, former Commonwealth Games champion at the National Wrestling Championship in Gonda, Uttar Pradesh.

Among other categories, U23 World Championships silver medallist Shivani Pawar won the 50kg category & Pooja Gehlot, with a silver at U23 Worlds in 2019, won the 53kg division.

#### [13. First-ever National Yogasana Championship held at Bhubaneswar, Odisha](#)

560 young athletes from 30 states of India were present in the tournament's vibrant opening ceremony. The athletes would compete for 50 medals in the uniquely designed competition. The event has been organized from November 11 to 13 under the National Yogasana Sports Federation (NYSF), in collaboration with the Government of Odisha. India is set to host the first-ever yogasana world championship in June next year.

#### [14. ICC Men's T-20 Cricket World Cup: Australia lifts ICC T-20 World Cup trophy, beats New Zealand by 8 wickets](#)

In T-20 WORLD CUP Cricket, Australia lifted their maiden T20 World Cup title as they defeated New Zealand in the final by 8 wickets at Dubai International stadium tonight. Chasing a victory target of 173, Australia won the game with 7 balls to spare. They made 173 for the loss of 2 wickets. David Warner was declared Player of the series

#### [15. F1 | Lewis Hamilton ends 'hardest weekend' with stunning win at Brazilian Grand Prix](#)

Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton ended 'the hardest weekend I've had' with a stunning victory at the Brazilian Grand Prix and gained momentum in his Formula One title fight with Red Bull driver Max Verstappen.

Hamilton, a 7-time world champion, beat Verstappen despite starting from 10th position on the grid due to a penalty Verstappen, the winner of the race's previous edition in 2019, finished second

#### [16. Union Minister Anurag Thakur confers 246 athletes and coaches with first-ever Sports Authority of India's Institutional Awards](#)

Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur conferred the first-ever Sports Authority of India's Institutional Awards to 246 athletes and coaches in New Delhi. A total of 162 athletes and 84 coaches have been conferred awards in the Outstanding Award and Best Award category for their performance in national and international competitions with cash awards.

#### [17. India and Bangladesh to jointly host the 2031 Cricket World Cup](#)

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has decided that India and Bangladesh will jointly host the 2031 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup.

The hosts were selected via a competitive bidding process which was overseen by a board sub-committee chaired by Martin Snedden along with Sourav Ganguly and Ricky Skerritt.

#### [18. AB de Villiers announces retirement from all forms of cricket](#)

South African legend and former captain AB De Villiers has announced retirement from all forms of cricket, bringing the curtains down on an illustrious career. The 37-year-old made the announcement on Twitter, ending a 17-year career, which saw him play in 114 Tests, 228 ODIs and 78 T20Is for the Proteas. ABD records: Fastest 50 runs in 16 balls, fastest 100 in 31, fastest 150 in 64 balls.

#### [19. Lewis Hamilton wins Formula 1's Qatar Grand Prix](#)

Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton has closed the gap to title rival Max Verstappen following a dominant victory in the inaugural Qatar Grand Prix at the Losail International Circuit, with Verstappen recovering from a grid drop that saw him start P7 to finish second, as Alpine's Fernando Alonso took the final podium position.

#### [20. India bags seven medals at Asian Archery Championships](#)

India bagged a total of seven medals at the Asian Archery Championships 2021 held in Dhaka. India's recurve archery teams added two silver medals and a bronze on the final day of the Championships.

India ended the week-long continental event with seven medals - one gold, four silvers, and two bronze.

#### 21. Alexander Zverev clinches his second ATP Finals title beating Daniil Medvedev

In Tennis, Germany's Alexander Zverev clinched his second Nitto ATP Finals title after beating World No.2 Russia's Daniil Medvedev 6-4, 6-4 in the finals at Turin in Italy.

Zverev became just the fourth player in the tournament's history to earn semi-final and final wins over the top two players in the ATP Rankings.

#### 22. In a first, women wrestling inducted in All India Postal Wrestling Championship

For the first time in the history of All India Postal Wrestling Championship, women wrestling has been inducted in the tournament, said Postmaster General of Delhi Circle, Ashok Kumar. 34th All India Postal Wrestling championship will begin in New Delhi. Tokyo Olympic Bronze medallist wrestler Bajrang Punia and Indian Olympic Coach Anil Mann will grace opening ceremony

#### 23. Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy Finals-21: Tamil Nadu defeats Karnataka by four wickets in Delhi

In cricket, Tamil Nadu lifted the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy defeating Karnataka. Batsman M. Shahrulkh Khan smashed a dramatic last-ball six to help Tamil Nadu defend the T-20 title with a thrilling four-wicket win in the summit clash in Arun Jaitley Stadium Delhi

#### 24. Tashkent to host 2025 Asian Youth Para Games

The Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) has announced that Tashkent, Uzbekistan will host the 2025 Asian Youth Para Games.

The 2021 edition of the Asian Youth Para Games will take place shortly in Bahrain from December 2-6, 2021.

The decision was taken by the APC's executive board following a bidding process Uzbekistan Currency: Uzbekistani som, President: ShavkatMirziyoyev

#### 25. Saurav Ghosal beats top seed Miguel Rodriguez to become 1st Indian to win Malaysian Open squash championships

Indian squash player Saurav Ghosal won his first PSA title in three years when he triumphed at the Malaysian Open with a straight-set win over top seed Miguel Rodriguez in Kuala Lumpur.

Second seed and ranked 15th in the world, Ghosal defeated Rodriguez 11-7 11-8 13-11 in 55 minutes to win his 10th PSA title.

#### 26. Ramkumar Ramanathan clinches maiden singles title on ATP Challenger Tour

Indian tennis player Ramkumar Ramanathan won his maiden singles title at the ATP Challenger tournament in Manama, Bahrain.

Ramkumar, seeded sixth and ranked 222 in the world.

He defeated EvgenyKarlovskiy of the Russian Tennis Federation in the final by 6-1, 6-4 in 68 minutes. The unseeded Russian, EvgenyKarlovskiy, ranked 302 in the world.



The advertisement features the Oliveboard logo at the top left. The main text reads 'TARGET CET Maths Special Courses' in large, bold letters. Below this, there is an illustration of a stack of books, a pencil holder with pens, and a ruler. On the right side, there are two white boxes with green text: 'ARITHMETIC Covers All Basic Concepts' and 'ADVANCE Covers All Advance Concepts'. Below these boxes, it says 'Separate Eng & Hindi Batches'. At the bottom, there are two portraits of men, Ravinder Sir and Nikhil Sir, with their names written below them in green boxes.

## Agreements & MoUs

### 1. India and World Bank signed agreement to strengthen health systems in Meghalaya

The government of India, the Government of Meghalaya, and the World Bank signed a \$40 million health project for the state of Meghalaya. The project will improve the quality of health services and strengthen the state's capacity to handle future health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic. All 11 districts of the state will benefit from the project.

### 2. India, Italy to collaborate on green hydrogen, gas

A joint statement issued after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held the first in-person meeting with his Italian counterpart Mario Draghi on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Rome, said the two leaders agreed to encourage joint investments of Indian and Italian companies in energy transition-related fields.

### 3. Niti Aayog, World Bank ready electric vehicles financing push

Niti Aayog and the World Bank are working together to facilitate a programme for faster and easier financing of electric vehicles (EV) after high-street banks seemed lukewarm due to a small resale market, higher default probabilities and significant upfront costs. The two entities are setting up a \$300-million 'first loss risk-sharing instrument.

This facility would seek to garner around \$1.5 billion in financing for EVs.

### 4. NSDC Collaborates With Global Partners To Launch Skill Impact Bond

NSDC Collaborates With Global Partners To Launch Skill Impact Bond. The coalition has brought together a US\$14.4 million fund to benefit 50,000 young people in India over 4 years. The target group includes 60 percent of women and girls and to equip them with skills and vocational training and provide access to wage-employment in COVID-19 recovery sectors.

### 5. Ministry of Rural Development signs MoU with Flipkart

Flipkart, India's homegrown e-commerce marketplace, has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Rural Development of the Government of India, for their ambitious Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana ' National Rural Livelihood Mission program, to help empower local businesses and self-help groups ' especially those that are led by women ' by bringing them into the e-commerce fold. MoU signed between the two parties as a part of the Flipkart Samarth program.

### 6. Bank of Baroda signs MoU with NeML, becomes 'clearing bank' for handling financial transactions

India's premium public sector bank, Bank of Baroda (BoB), announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NCDEX e Markets Ltd (NeML), to become a 'clearing bank' for the online, commodities' market place and procurement platform. The MoU was signed between Bank of Baroda's General Manager Jagdish Tungaria and NeML's MD & CEO Mrugank Paranjape.

### 7. Axis Bank signs MoU with Indian Navy for salary accounts

Private sector lender Axis Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Navy, offering a defence service salary package. Through the exclusive defence service salary package "Power Salute" Axis Bank will offer numerous benefits to all ranks of the Indian Navy, veterans and cadets. Amitabh Chaudhry is the CEO of Axis Bank

### 8. ICAR inks MoU with ICFA

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was recently signed between ICAR and the Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA), to strengthen agricultural research, innovations and farmers' outreach for sustainable agricultural development. ICAR and ICFA is making the efforts to scale out the technologies to the farmers and develop new linkages through demand-driven research Dr Trilochan Mohapatra is the Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR)

### 9. ISA partners with GEAPP to accelerate energy transition

International Solar Alliance has partnered with the newly launched Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet to accelerate energy transition in the least developed countries and small island developing states. The partnership will champion significant solar capacity generation globally while supporting grid-based and distributed renewable solutions. The International Solar Alliance is an alliance of 124 countries initiated by India.

### 10. TCS becomes Jaguar's Formula E title partner

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has joined British racing team Jaguar Racing as the title partner, ahead of the 2021/22 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship. The team will be known as Jaguar TCS Racing.

TCS and Jaguar will create a dynamic platform that will drive research and innovation while steering towards advanced concepts and electric vehicle (EV) technologies.

#### [11. Federal Bank, Aditya Birla Health Insurance enter bancassurance partnership](#)

Federal Bank and Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Limited (ABHICL) have announced their bancassurance partnership. Through this partnership, Federal Bank will be able to provide their customers innovative health insurance solutions offered by ABHICL.

Consumers can avail benefits of various retail and group affinity products through the Bank's various distribution channels.

#### [12. ESAF join hands with NABARD for local economic development in Kerala](#)

ESAF Small Finance Bank has launched State Level Local Sustainable Economic Development Training Programme in Kerala in collaboration with NABARD.

Initially, this project will benefit 300 panchayats across Kerala.

It was aimed at bringing financial empowerment and economic independence at the local level.

It is a step towards building financial literacy at grass root levels.

#### [13. Aadhar Housing Finance, UCO Bank enter into co-lending partnership](#)

Aadhar Housing Finance and UCO Bank have entered into a co-lending agreement to offer home loans at competitive interest rates.

The partnership aims at providing easy and convenient home finance solutions to customers from the economically weaker sections of society. The co-lending framework of the Reserve Bank of India provides a tool for banks and non-banks to collaborate. UCO Bank, formerly United Commercial Bank, established in 1943 in Kolkata.

#### [14. CESL inks MoU with Marriott International to develop EV charging units](#)

State-owned Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL) has signed an agreement with Marriott International to develop electric vehicle charging units and related infrastructure.

CESL will be entrusted with planning and implementation of the project including all costs and performance of all tasks required for procurement, installation, operation & maintenance of charging units.

#### [15. Tata Motors signs five-year MoU with Equitas SFB; to bring financial solutions for SCV customers](#)

Tata Motors has signed a 5 year Memorandum of Understanding with Equitas SFB, one of the country's largest small finance banks, to bring a set of attractive financial solutions to its customers.

With benefits applicable across the Tata Motors small commercial vehicle (SCV) range, this tie-up will aim to facilitate seamless availability of financing for aspiring buyers.

#### [16. NPCI Bharat BillPay on-boards ICICI Prudential Life Insurance on ClickPay](#)

NPCI Bharat BillPay has tied up with ICICI Prudential Life Insurance to provide ClickPay to the insurer's customers.

ICICI Prudential Life Insurance is the first insurance company to offer this facility of ClickPay to its customers empowering them to make renewal premium payments with ease. NPCI Bharat BillPay CEO: Noopur Chaturvedi; ICICI Prudential CEO: N.S.Kannan

#### [17. India-led International Solar Alliance signs UN pact at COP26 in Glasgow](#)

The MoU involves the two institutions (ISA and UNFCCC) working to jointly organise a set of activities to facilitate the implementation of mitigation action in the energy sector, facilitate the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Long-term Low Emission Development Strategies.

#### [18. Niyto partners SBM Bank, Visa for digital savings account](#)

Digital-banking fintech, Niyto, in association with SBM Bank India and VISA now offers a digital savings account with its highly trusted and travel-friendly product Niyto Global.

Along with zero-forex mark-up, customers can now earn an attractive interest p.a. on the savings account.

Indian passport holders can now enjoy all the features of Niyto Global card.

#### [19. BSE joins hand with All India MSME Association\(AIMA MSME\) to promote listing of MSMEs](#)

Through this pact, AIMA MSME will assist BSE in evaluating MSMEs and startups for listing on the exchange's SME platform while also sensitising its investor network for investing in listed MSMEs.

The two entities will host joint roadshows and events across the country to raise awareness among micro, small & medium enterprises for listing on the exchange's SME segment.

BSE launched its SME platform in March 2012.

#### [20. Tata Projects bags \\$120mn\(around Rs.900 crores\) order for power transmission project in Bangladesh](#)

Tata Projects Limited has received an order for a 400kV double circuit transmission line project valued at around \$120 million from the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited.

This 120-km project from Barapukuria to Bogura has been secured on a turnkey basis. It will be executed in 30 months & the funding will be by EXIM Bank India under the Indian Line of Credit.

#### [21. Tripartite Settlement of MOIL Signed](#)

In a major development, tripartite settlement for wage revision of Manganese Ore India Ltd. (MOIL) workers were signed between management of MOIL and the representatives of the recognized union, in presence of Chief Labour Commissioner, Government of India, in a high level function organized at Shram Shakti Bhawan. This wage revision is for 10 years' duration, benefitting close to 6,000 company employee

#### [22. Sidbi joins hands with Google to help MSMEs](#)

Small Industries Development Bank of India (Sidbi) has entered into a partnership with Google India Pvt Ltd (GIPL) for piloting a social impact lending program with financial assistance up to '1 crore at competitive interest rates to MSMEs.

This partnership with GIPL brings a corpus of \$15 million (around '110 crores) to MSMEs as a crisis response related to Covid-19.

#### [23. SBI, Tata Steel tie up to promote football through Jamshedpur FC](#)

With an aim to support and promote Indian football, the country's largest lender, SBI, has entered into a strategic partnership with JFC, the football club owned by Tata Steel.

The bank signed a landmark agreement with the JFC ' making this a first major endeavour by SBI in the game of football.

#### [24. BOB Cards partners NPCI for RuPay credit cards](#)

BOB Financial Solutions (BFSL), a subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB) has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to launch BoB Credit Cards (Easy and Premier variants) on the RuPay platform.

Both Easy and Premier variants of BoB credit cards have been launched on the JCB International network and both cards support global acceptance.

#### [25. Japan to provide USD 2.6 bn loan for power and metro project in Bangladesh](#)

Bangladesh signed an exchange of note and loan agreement with Japan worth USD 2.66 billion for two development projects in the country. The loan will be used to implement the 1200 MW Matarbari Ultra Super critical coal fired power project as the 6th tranche of the ongoing project and the Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Development project Japan Capital: Tokyo Currency: Japanese yen Prime minister: Fumio Kishi

#### [26. India, US set to revive Trade Policy Forum after four years](#)

India and the United States (US) are set to revive the Trade Policy Forum (TPF) after four years, in an attempt to bolster trade and investment flows between the two nations.

Established in 2005, the India-US TPF met last in October 2017. It was then replaced by negotiations between the two sides on a trade deal.

#### [27. World Bank to provide \\$250 million loan for school learning project in Andhra Pradesh](#)

World Bank will provide \$250 million loan for a school education project in Andhra Pradesh, which will cover over 50 lakh students in the southern state.

The project will cover about 40 lakh students (6-14 year age group) in over 45,000 government schools, and over 10 lakh children (3-6 years) enrolled in Anganwadis, and about 1,90,000 teachers.

#### [28. Union Bank of India, Capri Global Capital tie up for co-lending to MSMEs](#)

Union Bank of India has entered into a co-lending partnership with Capri Global Capital, under which they will disburse loans to MSMEs.

Capri Global Capital Ltd is a non-banking financial company focused on lending to MSMEs and the affordable housing finance segment.

The co-lending agreement aims to enhance last-mile finance & drive financial inclusion to MSMEs.

### [29. Govt of India, Asian Development Bank sign \\$300 million loan to improve primary health care in the country](#)

The government of India (GOI) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a 300 million dollar loan to improve primary health care in urban areas of 13 states that will benefit over 256 million urban dwellers including 51 million from slum areas. The programme supports the Government of India's key health initiatives:-

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### [30. Equitas Bank ties up with HDFC Bank to offer co-branded credit cards](#)

India's largest private sector bank HDFC Bank and Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited has announced its partnership to launch its new co-branded credit cards.

This strategic partnership draws on HDFC Bank's strengths as India's leading issuer of credit cards and superior customer engagement to extend best-in-class services to Equitas' customer base.

### [31. ADB approves \\$1.5 bn loan to India for purchasing COVID-19 vaccines](#)

The Asian Development Bank has approved a USD 1.5 billion (around Rs 11,185 crore) loan to India to purchase safe and effective vaccines against coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank is expected to co-finance an additional USD 500 million for the project.

### [32. CESL inks pact with IIT Bombay to establish EV charging infrastructure](#)

State-owned CESL signed a Letter of Association with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B) to implement electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the country. Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Energy Efficiency Services Ltd.

### [33. Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited launch Model Retail Outlet Scheme](#)

Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited have announced the launch of Model Retail Outlet Scheme and a Digital Customer Feedback Program called Darpan@petrolpump. Three oil PSUs have joined hands to launch Model Retail Outlets to enhance service standards and amenities, across their networks.

### [34. GHCL Ltd to invest Rs 500 cr in Tamil Nadu; signs MoU with govt](#)

Leading chemical and textile companies would invest Rs 500 crore in Tamil Nadu and a MoU was signed with the government to this effect. GHCL CEO (Yarn Division) M Sivabalasubramanian exchanged documents with Guidance Tamil Nadu, Managing Director and CEO, Pooja Kulkarni in the presence of Chief Minister M K Stalin during the Investment Conclave held in Coimbatore.

### [35. First of its kind program 'WISER' for lateral entry for women researchers in joint R&D projects between India & Germany launched](#)

The programme called Women's Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) program was launched by Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC) for encouraging women researchers in joint R&D projects.

It is to promote women in the field of research and development through lateral entry.

IGSTC is going to support awardees with a maximum amounting to Rs. 39 L from Indian side.

### [36. Capri Global Capital collaborates with SBI to offer MSME loans](#)

Capri Global Capital (CGCL) has entered into a Co-Lending agreement with the State Bank of India (SBI) to offer MSME loans.

Through this collaboration, CGCL and SBI aim to disburse MSME loans initially across 100+ touch points pan-India.

The collaboration will help MSMEs to avail customized lending solutions at a competitive rate of interest.

## Schemes

### 1. Shri Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation launches the "Dairy Sahakar" scheme

Shri Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation launched the "Dairy Sahakar" scheme at Gujarat, during the function organised by Amul for celebration of 75th Foundation day. The Dairy Sahakar with a total investment of Rs 5000 crore will be implemented by NCDRC under Ministry of Cooperation to realize the vision, 'from cooperation to prosperity'. 'Amul' is an Indian dairy cooperative society based in Gujarat and was founded in 1946.

### 2. Cabinet gives nod to restore MPLADS

The Union Cabinet has approved restoration of the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for the remaining part of the current financial year till 2025-26, which will have a total financial implication of '17,417.00 crore.

Under the scheme, each MP will get '2 crore in one instalment for development activities for the remainder of 2021-22. Annually '5 crore, in two instalments of '2.5 crore each.

### 3. Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana ' Gramin completes 5 years

On the eve of completion of 5 years of the scheme and celebration of AwaasDiwas on 20th November, 2021, States/UTs have undertaken various activities to celebrate the Diwas such as Bhoomi Pujan, GruhPravesh, visit of beneficiaries to demonstration houses, sensitization of beneficiaries about PMAY-G etc. It was launched on 20th Nov, 2016 with effect from 1st April'16. Beneficiaries under PMAY-G are identified through SECC-2011.

### 4. PM chairs 39th PRAGATI Interaction

PM Narendra Modi has chaired the meeting of 39th edition of PRAGATI, the ICT based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, involving Centre & State governments.

In the meeting, 9 agenda items were taken for review including 8 projects & 1 scheme. Up to the 38 editions of PRAGATI meetings, 303 projects have been reviewed.



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## Appointments & Resignations

### 1. FICCI appoints Arun Chawla as new director general

Industry chamber FICCI announced Arun Chawla has been appointed as its new director-general. He joined the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry in 2011 and is currently the deputy secretary-general of the chamber.

### 2. Shri Pavan Kapoor appointed as India's ambassador to Russia

Indian diplomat Shri Pavan Kapoor has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Russian Federation.

"Shri Pavan Kapoor presently Ambassador of India to United Arab Emirates, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Russian Federation.

### 3. Barclays CEO Jes Staley quits, CS Venkatakrishnan to replace him

British bank Barclays's chief executive Jes Staley had quit. Staley has been replaced with immediate effect by its head of global markets, C.S. Venkatakrishnan.

Before joining Barclays in 2016, Venkat worked at JPMorgan Chase from 1994, holding senior roles in asset management and investment banking. Staley became CEO of Barclays in October 2015.

### 4. India appoints Sanjay Bhattacharyya as its next ambassador to Switzerland

India has appointed Sanjay Bhattacharyya as its next Ambassador to Switzerland, the Ministry of External Affairs.

Currently, Bhattacharyya is serving as Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.

Bhattacharyya an Indian Foreign Service officer of the 1987 batch is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

Earlier, he had also served as India's Ambassador to Turkey. Switzerland Capital: Bern; Currency: Swiss franc

### 5. Microsoft names Thomas Dohmke CEO of code-sharing platform GitHub

Microsoft named Thomas Dohmke chief executive officer for its GitHub code-sharing unit and promoted developer tools executive Julia Liuson, as the company looks to accelerate its growth in the market for software development products. Dohmke was the co-founder of mobile development app HockeyApp and joined Microsoft when the software maker acquired his company.

### 6. Rajib Kumar Mishra given charge as PTC India's CMD

Rajib Kumar Mishra shall exercise the power of chairman and managing director of PTC India Ltd, subsequent to relieving of Deepak Amitabh.

PTC India Ltd. (formerly known as Power Trading Corporation of India Limited), was incorporated in 1999 to undertake trading of power to achieve economic efficiency & security of supply & to develop a vibrant power market in the country.

### 7. International Human Rights Foundation appoints Daniel del Valle as the High Representative for Youth

The International Human Rights Foundation (IHRF) has appointed the Spaniard Daniel del Valle as the High Representative for Youth due to his achievements in the thematic area of youth empowerment and youth participation for the United Nations.

IHRF, a non-governmental and non-profit institution. Chairman: Garry Kasparov; Founder: Thor Halvorssen Mendoza; Formed: 2005; HQ: NewYork,USA

### 8. Amitabh Bachchan roped in as brand ambassador of Amway India

Amway India, a Direct Selling FMCG company announced the appointment of Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan as its brand ambassador.

It is a time in moment as the two brands have come together to proliferate message on significance of holistic health & wellness, women empowerment, and inspiring youth towards entrepreneurship for a progressive India.

### 9. SN Pradhan appointed as NCB chief till August 2024

Satya Narayan Pradhan has been appointed as Director-General of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on a deputation basis till the date of his superannuation on August 31, 2024, or until further orders.

He was currently holding additional charge of NCB chief despite holding the responsibility of Director General of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) ,Parent agency: Ministry of Home Affairs.

#### 10. Professor Bimal Patel elected to UN's International Law Commission for 5-year term

Professor Bimal Patel, Vice-Chancellor, Rashtriya Raksha University and Member of National Security Advisory Board of India, has been elected to the International Law Commission for a five-year term starting January 1, 2023.

India topped the Asia-Pacific group with 163 votes for Patel. The International Law Commission has an office at Geneva.

#### 11. Ex-CBDT chairman PC Mody appointed as new secretary general of Rajya Sabha

PC Mody, a former chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), will be the new secretary general of the Upper House of Parliament. Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu has signed an order to this effect.

PC Mody replaces PPK Ramacharyulu, who was appointed on September 1, as secretary general of Rajya Sabha.

#### 12. Standard Chartered Securities India names Rajeev Srivastava new CEO

Standard Chartered Securities (India) Limited (SCSI) has named Rajeev Srivastava as the new chief executive officer.

Prior to this appointment, Srivastava was associated with HDFC Securities as the head of products and business development functions of the organization.

#### 13. International Cricket Council appoints Geoff Allardice as CEO

The International Cricket Council (ICC) appointed interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Geoff Allardice on a permanent basis. Allardice had been in the role on an interim basis for more than eight months. Allardice was a former first-class cricketer representing Victoria in 14 matches in Australian domestic cricket from 1991 to 1994.

#### 14. ED Director Sanjay Mishra gets one year extension

The Government has extended the tenure of Director of Enforcement Directorate (ED) Sanjay Mishra by one year till November 18, 2022.

He became the first beneficiary of the Ordinance promulgated by the Modi government that provided the extension of the tenure of the ED as director. Mishra, a 1984-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) cadre of the Income Tax Department.

#### 15. Sudan's military sign deal to reinstate ousted PM Abdalla Hamdok

Sudan's ousted Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok has been reinstated following last month's coup when he was put under house arrest.

But the civilian coalition that nominated Mr. Hamdok as PM two years ago refused to acknowledge any new deal.

The military has come under intense international and domestic pressure to restore the transition to democracy. Capital: Khartoum; Currency: Sudanese pound

#### 16. Sheikh Sabah Al Khaled Al Sabah appointed as Kuwait's new Prime Minister

Sheikh Sabah Al Khaled Al Hamad Al Sabah has been appointed the new Prime Minister of Kuwait.

Sheikh Sabah also served as Kuwait's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Envoy at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) from 1995 to 1998.

He has also been awarded with the Order of King Abdulaziz of First Class in 1998 by Saudi Arabia.

#### 17. India's nominee elected to executive committee of Interpol

Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) special director Praveen Sinha was elected the delegate for Asia in the executive committee of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) following a tough contest involving China.

The election was held in the Turkish city of Istanbul during the 89th Interpol general assembly. HQs of Interpol:- Lyon, France

#### 18. Ashok Leyland MD and CEO Vipin Sondhi to step down from 31 December

Vipin Sondhi, the managing director and chief executive of commercial vehicles maker Ashok Leyland - who was hired after an extensive head-hunting exercise that lasted more than a year - will step down from his position within two years of appointment. Chairman Dheeraj Hinduja, will again step into an executive role.

#### 19. Czech President appoints Milos Zeman Petr Fiala as PM

Czech President Milos Zeman appointed Petr Fiala as Prime Minister in a ceremony he performed from a plexiglass cubicle after testing positive for Covid-19.

PM Modi congratulated H. E Petr Fiala on his appointment.

Czech Republic: Currency: Czech koruna; Capital: Prague

#### 20. Ace mountaineer Harshwanti Bisht elected as first woman president of Indian Mountaineering Foundation

Noted mountaineer from Uttarakhand Harshwanti Bisht has earned the distinction of being elected the first woman president of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF).

Bisht, who did a course in mountaineering from the Uttarkashi-based Nehru Institute of Mountaineering in 1975, scaled the Nanda Devi peak in 1981 which earned her the Arjuna award. IMF was founded in 1958. It has headquarters in New Delhi.

#### 21. Dorsey steps down, Indian-origin Parag Agrawal takes over as new Twitter CEO

Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey stepped down as CEO, and announced that Indian American Parag Agrawal, Twitter's current chief technology officer, will be taking his place with immediate effect.

Dorsey founded the company in 2006, and posted the platform's first tweet on March 6. The company went public in 2013, five years after he was ousted 2008.

#### 22. Govt. appoints Senior Bureaucrat, Vivek Johri as the Chairman of CBIC

The government has appointed senior bureaucrat Vivek Johri as the Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

Johri, a 1985-batch Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Indirect Taxes) officer, is currently working as a member of the board.

His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. He was appointed as the tenure of former chairman M Ajit Kumar ends in November 2021.



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## Awards

### 1. Shri Hardeep Singh Puri chairs the Valedictory session of the 14th Urban Mobility Conference 2021

Shri Hardeep S. Puri chaired the valedictory session of the 14th edition of Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2021. He presented awards to the state / city winners for 'Excellence in Urban Transport' in different categories and distributed certificates under the Executive Programme in Sustainable Transport and trophies for SMART-MOVE. Shri Hardeep S. Puri is Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas

### 2. Former NIO Scientist Dr. Nigam Selected for International Award

Dr. Rajiv Nigam (Former Chief Scientist, CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, India), Selected as 2022 recipient of J.A. Cushman Award for Excellence in Foraminiferal Research. The award will be presented at the Cushman Reception at the 2022 Geological Society of America meeting in Denver, Colorado, USA. Dr. Nigam is recipient of several awards like CSIR Young Scientist Award.

### 3. South African author Damon Galgut wins Booker Prize for 'The Promise'

South African playwright and novelist Damon Galgut won the 2021 Booker Prize for "The Promise", his third shortlisted novel which chronicles a family in his homeland from the late apartheid era through to Jacob Zuma's presidency. Spanning several decades, the book shows the family's growing disintegration as the country emerges into democracy.

### 4. Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award: Neeraj Chopra, Lovlina Borgohain and PR Sreejesh among 12 awardees

Olympic bronze-winning Indian men's hockey team captain Manpreet Singh added to the list of Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna awardees, taking the total number of this year's winners to an unparalleled 12, with the ceremony scheduled for November 13 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

### 5. TVS Motor Company Wins India Green Energy Award

TVS Motor Company, has been recognised in the category 'Outstanding Renewable Energy User' at the Third Edition of India Green Energy Award 2020 by the Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE). India Green energy Awards - An Initiative of IFGE - is an effort to recognize & highlight the impact & importance of Green Energy for the future of humankind

### 6. Puneeth Rajkumar honoured posthumously with Basavashree Award 2021

Kannada actor Puneeth Rajkumar will be posthumously conferred the Basavashree award 2021 by the Bruhanmutt.

The award honours people for services to society in their respective fields by following the principles of Lord Basaveshwar.

It is presented by Chitradurga Bruhanmutt since 1997.

The award includes a Rs 5 lakh cash and a memento.

### 7. Zimbabwean author Tsitsi Dangarembga wins 2021 German peace prize

Zimbabwean author and filmmaker Tsitsi Dangarembga was honored with the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade. Dangarembga is a widely audible voice of Africa in contemporary literature.

The 62-year-old was honored for her artistic work, but also for her political commitment. She has been fighting for freedom and against corruption for years. Dangarembga became the first Black woman to win the prize.

### 8. National Sports Awards 2021: Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award winners

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award: Neeraj Chopra (Athletics), Ravi Kumar (Wrestling), Lovlina Borgohain (Boxing), P R Sreejesh (Hockey), Avani Lekhara (Para Shooting), Sumit Antil (Para Athletics), Pramod Bhagat (Para Badminton), Krishna Nagar (Para Badminton), Manish Narwal (Para Shooting), Mithali Raj (Cricket), Sunil Chhetri (Football), Manpreet Singh (Hockey).

Khel Ratna award carries a cash prize purse of Rs 25 lakh, a medal a scroll of honour.

### 9. National Sports Awards 2021: Arjuna award and Dronacharya award

India this year honoured 35 Arjuna awardees and a total of 10 coaches were conferred with the Dronacharya awards this year. Some Arjuna awardees include Shikhar Dhawan, CA Bhavani Devi (Fencing), Olympic bronze-winning men's hockey team and other medal winners from Paralympic Games. Arjuna award carries a prize money of Rs 15 lakh, a bronze statue and a scroll of honour.

### 10. IIT Bombay team wins \$250,000 XPrize, Elon Musk Foundation grant at COP26

Four students and two teachers from IIT Bombay have won a grant of US\$250,000 (approximately '1.85 crore) for the new-age technology at the Sustainable Innovation Forum at COP-26 in Glasgow.

They won the prize for developing a technology that can remove carbon from the atmosphere and turn them into salts.

XPRIZE Foundation is a part of the Elon Musk Foundation

#### [11. Guinness World Records recognises achievement of BRO for constructing world's highest motorable road](#)

Director General of Border Roads Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry received the Guinness World Records certificate for the achievement of Border Roads Organisation of constructing and black topping the world's highest motorable road. It has been constructed at 19,024 feet at Umlingla Pass in Ladakh. Official adjudicator of the Guinness World Records Rishi Nath acknowledged this.

#### [12. Malayalam author M Mukundan wins JCB Prize for Literature 2021 for 'Delhi: A Soliloquy'](#)

Author M Mukundan has received the JCB Prize for Literature 2021 for his novel Delhi: A Soliloquy. The novel, published by Westland Books, was originally written in Malayalam and was translated into English by Fathima EV and Nandakumar K. While Mukundan will receive a prize amount of Rs 25 lakh, Fathima and Nandakumar will receive an amount of Rs 10 lakh.

#### [13. Hema Malini, Prasoon Joshi to be awarded Film Personalities of the Year at IFFI](#)

Actor and BJP leader Hema Malini, and lyricist, and former CBFC chief Prasoon Joshi will be facilitated with the Indian Film Personality of the Year award at the International Film Festival of India 2021.

Their contributions to the field of Indian cinema spread over decades and their body of work has enthralled audiences across generations. The International Film Festival of India venue: - Goa.

#### [14. President of India Graces Swachh Amrit Mahotsav and Presents Swachh Survekshan Awards 2021](#)

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, addressed the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav and presented the Swachh Survekshan Awards 2021, being organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in New Delhi. He appreciated the 'Safai Mitra Suraksha Challenge' initiative of the MoHUA which has been started in 246 cities with the aim to promote mechanical cleaning of sewers. Indore bags the cleanest city tag for the fifth consecutive year

#### [15. Civil society organisation Pratham awarded Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace for 2021](#)

Pratham, a civil society organisation dedicated to improving the quality of education among underprivileged children in India and across the world, has been conferred the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development for 2021.

The international jury of the Indira Gandhi Prize was headed by the former Chief Justice of India, Justice T.S. Thakur. It consists of a monetary award of Rs 25 lakh along with a citation.

#### [16. Andhra Pradesh Named Best Marine State, Telangana Top Performer In Inland Fisheries](#)

Telangana was adjudged best performer in inland fisheries, while Andhra Pradesh was named the best marine state in the country by the Centre.

Balasore in Odisha was named the best marine district, and Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh received the award for the best district in inland fisheries. The award for the best hilly and Northeastern state in the sector was given to Tripura. The best hilly & Northeastern state in the sector was given to Tripura.

#### [17. Anita Desai Conferred With The Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award For 2021](#)

Anita Desai, one of India's best-known authors nationally and internationally, has been conferred with the Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021. A household literary name in India, Mrs. Desai's authorship has spanned more than 50 years, with memorable works such as Fire On The Mountain, Cry The Peacock, A Village By The Sea, The Clear Light Of Day, etc.

#### [18. All India Radio and Doordarshan win multiple awards at ABU - UNESCO Peace Media Awards 2021 held in Malaysia](#)

TV show produced by Doordarshan and radio show by All India Radio received multiple awards at the recently held ABU - UNESCO Peace Media Awards-2021 at Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia.

All India Radio's programme 'Living on the edge - The coastal lives' won an award in the category of 'Ethical and Sustainable Relationship with Nature'. Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, formed in 1964, HQ: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

#### [19. Kerala man is 1st Indian honoured with knighthood in Italy](#)

Sohan Roy, a Forbes-listed entrepreneur from Kerala & who has a passion for getting noticed in the film industry through his unconventional contribution to humanity & the world cinema has now become the 1st Indian who has been awarded the honorary title of 'Knight of ParteGuelfa'. The knighthood was conferred on Roy for his humanitarian & environmental protection efforts.

## 20. Awards at the 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India - Japanese Film 'Ring Wandering' bags The Golden Peacock

Director Masakazu Kaneko of 'Ring Wandering' received the Golden Peacock and a Certificate, in addition to a cash prize of Rs. 20 lakh.

Czech Director VclavKadrnka's 'Saving One Who Is Dead' won the Silver Peacock for the Best Director. Lyricist Prasoon Joshi won the Indian Film Personality of the Year Award for 2021. Lingui, The Sacred Bondsby Mahamat-Saleh Haroun won the ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal.

## 21. Sixth BRICS Film Festival awards announced at closing ceremony of IFFI 52

South African film 'Barakat' and Russian film 'The Sun above Me Never Sets' shared the Best Film Award.

Brazilian filmmaker Lcia Murat was awarded Best Director for her documentary 'Ana'.

Indian actor Dhanush won Best actor (Male) for his role in 'Asuran'.

Brazilian actor Lara Boldorini honored with Best actor (Female) for her role in 'On Wheels'.

Director Yan Han from China won Jury Special Mention Award for 'A Little Red Flower'



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## Ranks & Reports

### 1. 'Global sea levels rose by a factor of two within 10 years': WMO

On the eve of the World Leaders Summit at the Glasgow climate change conference (COP26), WMO's provisional State of Climate in 2021 report said the mean global sea level rise was 2.1mm per year between 1993 and 2002 and 4.4mm per year between 2013 and 2021. This was mostly due to the loss of ice mass from glaciers and ice sheets. Arctic sea ice was below the 1981-2010 average at its maximum in March.

### 2. QS Asia University Rankings: Calcutta University ranks first among all Indian state-run varsities

Calcutta University has ranked on top above all state-run universities in the country in the QS Asia University Rankings 2022. Calcutta University is ranked 154th in Asia. In the QS Asia University Rankings 2022, the universities are ranked across 11 parameters including academics and employer reputation, the number of staff having PhD, proportion of students from abroad. Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University is Prof Sonali Chakraborty Banerjee

### 3. Public Affairs Index rankings 2021: Kerala adjudged best governed state

Kerala has been ranked as the best-governed state in the Public Affairs Index (PAI) 2021.

Kerala has been ranked among the top three states in all major pillars analysed in the index including equity, growth and sustainability.

Public Affairs Index (PAI) 2021 released by the Public Affairs Centre.

### 4. NITI Aayog Releases Report On 'Health Insurance For India's Missing Middle'

NITI Aayog released a comprehensive report titled Health Insurance for India's Missing Middle, which brings out the gaps in the health insurance coverage across the Indian population and offers solutions to address the situation.

The report was launched in the presence of NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant and Additional Secretary Dr Rakesh Sarwal.

### 5. India ranked 9th in Venture capital (VC) funding for climate tech globally

India ranks at the 9th spot globally for climate tech investment, with the country's climate tech firms receiving USD 1 bn in venture capital funding between 2016 & 2021. VC investment in climate technology companies has gone up globally since 2016, as per the report jointly prepared by international trade promotion agency London & Partners and Amsterdam-based Dealroom.co.

### 6. National logistics index 2021: Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab best performing states

Gujarat, Haryana & Punjab are the best performing states in terms of mobility of goods and efficiency of logistics chain, according to the third edition of the government's ranking of states based on logistics infrastructure.

Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra made up the rest of the top-5 states.

Haryana jumped to the second-highest position, up from 6th in the previous ranking. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

### 7. India received \$87 bn in remittances in 2021; US biggest source of funding

According to World Bank report, India received USD 87 bn in remittances in 2021, and the US was the biggest source, accounting for over 20% of these funds. India is followed by China, Mexico, the Philippines, and Egypt.

Flows to India (the world's largest recipient of remittances) are expected to reach USD 87 billion, a gain of 4.6% with the severity of COVID-19 caseloads. 'Migration and Development Brief ' report released by the World Bank.

### 8. India Stands at 82 in Global Business Bribery Risk Rankings

India has slipped to 82nd position in 2021, five places down from the 77th rank last year, in a global list that measures business bribery risks.

The list by TRACE, an anti-bribery standard-setting organisation, measures business bribery risk in 194 countries, territories, and autonomous and semi-autonomous regions.

### 9. India, world's largest recipient of remittances, World Bank Report

India, the world's largest recipient of remittances, received \$87 billion in 2021 with the United States being the biggest source, accounting for over 20 per cent of these funds, according to the World Bank. India is followed by China, Mexico, the Philippines, and Egypt. In India, remittances are projected to grow three per cent in 2022 to \$ 89.6 billion. Kerala is the highest remittances receiving state in India.

### 10. NITI Aayog under the Indo-German Cooperation releases inaugural SDG Urban Index and Dashboard 2021'22

In its journey towards localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and instituting robust SDG progress monitoring systems at the national, State/UT, and local levels, NITI Aayog has achieved yet another milestone with the launch of the inaugural SDG Urban Index & Dashboard (2021-22).

The index and dashboard are a result of the NITI Aayog-GIZ and BMZ collaboration. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairperson, NITI Aayog.

### 11. Delhi's Sadar Bazar police station ranked the best in the country

Sadar Bazar police station in Delhi has been ranked as the best police station in the country as part of the annual home ministry exercise to grade police stations based on parameters including handling of crime, infrastructure, and approachability of personnel.

# 2nd best:- Gangapur PS in Ganjam district of Odisha.

# 3rd best:-Bhattu Kalan PS in Fatehabad,Haryana

### 12. First ever Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) by NITI Aayog - 50% population of Bihar 'multidimensionally poor'.

Bihar with 51.91% has the maximum percentage of the population living in poverty among all the States and the Union Territories followed by Jharkhand (42.16%), Uttar Pradesh (37.79%), Madhya Pradesh (36.65%) and Meghalaya (32.67%).

Kerala registered the lowest population poverty levels at 0.71%.

The report was based on the reference period of the 2015-16 NFHS survey. Kerala was followed by Puducherry (1.72%),Lakshadweep(1.82%),Goa(3.76%) and Sikkim(3.82%)

### 13. Amazon, Asian Paints, Tata Tea India's 'most purposeful' brands in 2021: Kantar report

E-commerce giant Amazon, Asian Paints, and Tata Tea have been named as the "most purposeful" brands in India 2021 in tech, non-FMCG, and FMCG categories, the latest BrandZ India report by insights and consulting firm Kantar shows.

In the technology category, Amazon is followed by Zomato, Google-backed YouTube, Swiggy,& Walmart-backed Flipkart.



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## Important Days

### 1. Kerala celebrates its 65th formation day on November 1st

Kerala is celebrating its 65th "Kerala Pirayi," the formation day of the State. The State of Kerala was created on November 1, 1956, amalgamating the erstwhile provinces of Malabar, Cochin and Thiruvithancoor. Kerala Piravi Day commemorates this momentous union that led to the formation of modern-day Kerala as we know it.

### 2. The Vigilance Awareness Week is celebrated every year in the birthday week of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

The Vigilance Awareness Week is celebrated every year in the birthday week of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's, often referred to as the 'Bismark of India'. Patel was born on October 31st and is hailed as a man of high integrity and honesty. This year, the theme of the Vigilance Week celebrations is 'Independent India @ 75: Self Reliance with Integrity'. This year, Vigilance Week is being observed from October 26 to November 1.

### 3. November 3, 2021, marks the sixth annual One Health Day

November 3, 2021, marks the sixth annual One Health Day, a global campaign that celebrates and brings attention to the need for a One Health approach to address shared health threats at the human-animal-environment interface. One Health Day provides an opportunity for experts and the community to join together in One Health education and awareness.

### 4. India celebrates Ayurveda Day every year on the auspicious occasion of Dhanteras.

India celebrates Ayurveda Day every year on the auspicious occasion of Dhanteras. This year (2021) Ayurveda Day is celebrated on November 2nd. The day is marked to spread awareness of the importance of Ayurveda in our daily lives.

National Ayurveda Day is observed to focus on the strengths of Ayurveda and its unique treatment principles. The theme of National Ayurveda Day 2021: 'Ayurveda for Poshan'

### 5. World Tsunami Awareness Day: 5 November

In 2021, World Tsunami Awareness Day promotes 'Sendai Seven Campaign,' target (f), which aims to 'substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030.' In December 2015, the UN General Assembly designated 5 November as this day. The word "tsunami" has Japanese words "tsu" (meaning harbour) and "nami" (meaning wave).

### 6. International Day For Preventing The Exploitation Of The Environment In War And Armed Conflict 2021: November 6

The day is observed annually on November 6 in order to raise awareness about the damage caused to the environment due to wars.

United Nations General Assembly declared November 6 as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict on November 5, 2001.

United Nations General Assembly President:- Abdulla Shahid; HQ:-New York, USA

### 7. National Cancer Awareness Day 2021: November 7

November 7 is observed annually as National Cancer Awareness Day in India to raise awareness about cancer. This day was first announced in September 2014 by then Union health minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan. It is observed on November 7 every year to coincide with the birth anniversary of Marie Curie, known for her contribution in the fight against cancer.

### 8. World Radiography Day 2021: November 8

World Radiography Day is celebrated every year on November 8 to commemorate the discovery of X-radiation, or X-rays. It was on this day in 1895 that German scientist Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen, completed the discovery of X-radiation, X-rays.

In 1901, Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen became the first recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics for this achievement. Theme 2021:- 'Interventional Radiology ' Active care for the patient'.

### 9. Legal Services Day 2021: November 9

Every year, November 9 is celebrated as 'Legal Services Day' in all Indian states Authorities by organising legal literacy camps and functions.

Legal Services Day was first started in 1995 by the Supreme Court of India to offer legal services free of charge to people from the weaker and poor sections of the society.

#### 10. International Week of Science and Peace 2021: November 9 - 14

International Week of Science and Peace (IWOSP) is a global observance celebrated every year from November 9 to 14.

The event is celebrated to encourage people to develop better technology and cultivate peace in their countries.

The International Week of Science and Peace was first observed in 1986. It was proclaimed by UN General Assembly in 1988.

#### 11. World Science Day for Peace and Development 2021: November 10

Every year since 2002, World Science Day for Peace and Development is observed on November 10. This day is dedicated to the importance of science in keeping the fabric of society intact and flourishing. It all started at the World Conference on Science in Budapest in 1999.

This day is proclaimed by UNESCO in 2001. Theme 2021:- "Building Climate-Ready Communities".

#### 12. National Education Day: November 11

Every year since 2008, India has celebrated the National Education Day on November 11 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the man of many talents ' Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Union Education Minister of India.

In September of 2008, Indian Ministry of Education) declared the birth anniversary of Abul Kalam Azad as the National Education Day.

#### 13. India Celebrates Transport Day at COP26

On Transport Day at COP26, India, represented by NITI Aayog, participated in the fourth ministerial dialogue of the Zero-Emission Vehicle Transition Council (ZEVTC), a global forum on enhancing political cooperation on the transition to zero-emission vehicles.

India has already made great strides on introducing policies towards the faster adoption of electric mobility.

#### 14. Cabinet approves declaration of Birsa Munda's birth anniversary as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas'

The Union Cabinet has decided to declare November 15 as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas' to mark the birth anniversary of revered tribal leader and freedom fighter Birsa Munda and honour the contributions of the members of Scheduled Tribes to Indian history and culture.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Union Cabinet presided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

#### 15. World Pneumonia Day 2021: November 12

Pneumonia is the deadliest disease for children below five years, killing about 8,00,000 children every year. In many parts of the world, the United Nations Children's Fund states, a child dies from pneumonia every 39 seconds.

Termed as 'a disease of inequality,' the disease is concentrated in poor populations across the world. Theme for 2021: Stop Pneumonia / Every Breath Counts.

#### 16. World Antimicrobial Awareness Week(WAAW) : 18 to 24 November

WAAW is celebrated between 18-24 November each year to increase awareness of global antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and to encourage best practices among the general public, health workers, farmers, animal health professionals and policymakers to avoid the further emergence and spread of drug-resistant infections.

The theme for WAAW 2021 is: Spread awareness, stop resistance. The slogan of WAAW continues to be 'Antimicrobials: Handle with Care'.

#### 17. World Diabetes Day - November 14

World Diabetes Day (WDD) was created in 1991 by International Diabetes Foundation (IDF) and the World Health Organization in response to growing concerns about the escalating health threat posed by diabetes.

It is marked every year on 14 November, the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, who co-discovered insulin along with Charles Best in 1922. The theme for World Diabetes Day 2021-23 is Access to Diabetes Care ' If Not Now, When?.

#### 18. International Day for Tolerance | 16 November

November 16 commemorates the International Day of Tolerance, every year. This is a UN declared day that aims at creating public awareness on the dangers of intolerance.

Theme 2021: 'Tolerance is respect, acceptance, and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human'.

UN had declared a Year for Tolerance to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's in 1995

#### 19. National Press Day is celebrated every year on November 16

National Press Day is observed on November 16th every year to acknowledge and honor the Press Council of India, a statutory and quasi-judicial establishment. The day marks the presence of an independent and responsible press in India. First Press Commission 1956 envisioned a committee to protect the ethics of journalism Press Council of India was instituted on November 16, 1966

#### 20. World Toilet Day : November 19

World Toilet Day is observed on November 19 every year, to bring awareness about the importance of toilets and sanitation in our lives.

World Toilet Day was an initiative of a certain Jack Sim from Singapore, who founded the World Toilet organisation NGO in the year 2001.

It was his idea to use the day to raise awareness about the importance of sanitation and hygiene. The theme for this year's World Toilet Day is 'valuing toilets.'

#### 21. World Children's Day: November 20

Every year November 20 is celebrated as World Children's Day globally to promote the rights of children besides improving their standard of living. It also promotes international togetherness and raises awareness among children to improve their welfare. The theme for this year is to help children to recover from interruptions and learning losses experienced during pandemic. It is celebrated to commemorate the Declaration of the Rights of Child by UNGA in 1959.

#### 22. World Fisheries Day: November 21

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India and National Fisheries Development, is celebrating the 'World Fisheries Day' on 21st November 2021 at Rail Auditorium, Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar Odisha. During the event, for the 2nd time in Fisheries Sector the Government of India will award best performing States in FY21. Andhra Pradesh is the largest fish producer in India.

#### 23. World Television Day being observed on 21st November

World Television Day is being observed on 21st November. In December 1996 the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21st November as World Television Day commemorating the date on which the first World Television Forum was held in 1996.

Director-General of DD (News) and Doordarshan : Mayank Agrawal

#### 24. International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women: November 25

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women is celebrated every year on November 25. According to the United Nations (UN), violence against women and girls manifests in several forms. The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women was issued by the UN General Assembly in 1993. The theme of the day is 'Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now!'

#### 25. National Milk Day On November 26 To Mark Dr VergheseKurien's Birth Centenary

The 'National Milk Day' to commemorate the birth centenary of Dr VergheseKurien - popular as 'Milk Man of India' for his stellar contribution in the dairy sector and setting up of the Amul - will be celebrated at the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) Campus at Anand in Gujarat.

It is since 2014 that November 26 is celebrated as the 'National Milk Day'.

#### 26. India Celebrates 72nd Constitution Day On November 26

In a bid to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of independent India, the 26th of November is celebrated as the Constitution Day of India. This year marks the 72nd anniversary of the historic event that marked the dawn of a new era back in 1949.

The day, which is also known as Samvidhan Divas or National Law Day, or National Constitution Day.

#### 27. NDDB celebrates birth centenary of Dr. VergheseKurien

Union Minister of Animal Husbandry & Dairying ParshottamRupala conferred the Gopal Ratna Award to the winners of the Best Dairy Farmer rearing indigenous cattle/buffalo breeds during the celebration of 'National Milk Day' to commemorate the birth centenary of Dr VergheseKurien.

The Gopal Ratna Award will set benchmarks and help adopt best practices and innovation. National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) organised National Milk Day on his birthday.

#### 28. Nation celebrates National Organ Donation Day on 27th Nov

National Organ Donation Day has been celebrated on the 27th of November every year in our country since 2010. The objective of the day is to spread awareness among people and to recognize the selfless

efforts made towards mankind and re-establish belief in humanity. In India, organ donation has always been on a small scale. Only 0.65 organ donations per million population take place in the country.

### 29. International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People | November 29

The date of 29 November is observed as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People since 1978.

This date is based on the Partition Plan or the Resolution 181(II), intended to establish an Arab State and a Jewish State, which was adopted on 29 November 1947.

### 30. Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare 2021: November 30

Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare is an annual event held on November 30, every year since 2005.

The day marks a tribute to the victims of chemical warfare, as well as to reaffirm the commitment of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to the elimination of the threat of chemical weapons, thereby promoting the goals of peace.



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## Summit & Conferences

### 1. G-20 Summit adopts Rome Declaration; Member countries agree on reciprocal recognition of vaccines and faster approval by WHO

The G20 summit has adopted the Rome Declaration. The member countries have agreed on mutual recognition of vaccines, strengthening of WHO to give faster approvals to vaccines and suspending debt servicing for developing countries till December 2021. On the last day of the G20 Summit the global leaders deliberated upon subjects of Climate change, environment and development.

### 2. Dr Mansukh Mandaviya addresses the inaugural session of CII Asia Health 2021 summit

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya addressed the inaugural session of CII Asia Health 2021 summit. The theme of the summit is 'Transforming Healthcare for a better tomorrow'. The Union Minister exhorted that the Government is committed to Access, Affordability, Accountability, Adoption and Awareness for a better future of Healthcare sector

### 3. MeitY's AI Pe Charcha underlines importance of harnessing the power of AI for Good Governance

Embracing the possibilities of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in governance can help in devising better policies and predict challenges earlier. Focused on this thought, the National eGovernance Division under the Ministry of Electronics and IT recently organised an AI Pe Charcha wherein the panelists discussed the importance of data-driven and AI-enabled governance.

### 4. 14th edition of Cyber security conference 'c0c0n' to be inaugurated by General Bipin Rawat

Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat will inaugurate the 14th edition of 'c0c0n', an annual Hacking and Cyber Security Briefing, which will be held virtually from Nov10-13.

The conference, which is being conducted by Kerala Police in association with two non-profit organisations, Society for the Policing of Cyberspace and Information Security Research Association. Theme of this year's 'c0c0n' is - Improvise, Adapt and Overcome.

### 5. MoSMuraleedharan co-chairs third India-Senegal Joint Commission Meeting

Minister of State for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs Shri. V. Muraleedharan paid an official visit to the Republic of Senegal to co-chair the third India-Senegal Joint Commission Meeting (JCM). Both sides discussed all the areas of mutual interest including trade and commerce, investments, health, energy, agriculture, railways, defence & security, education, etc. President of Senegal: Macky Sall

### 6. Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, MoS, MoEFCC chairs the Conference of PCCF / Head of Forest Force

The Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey chaired the conference of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) / Head of Forest Force (HoFF).

The conference organised to discuss various forestry and wildlife issues for coming up with solutions and innovative ideas to meet both local and global challenges.

### 7. Union Minister Shri Pralhad Joshi to Address National Conclave on Mines and Minerals

Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Pralhad Joshi will be addressing the National Conclave on Mines and Minerals to be held in New Delhi on 23rd November. The 5th national conclave on Mines and Minerals will have many significant segments that will encourage exploration activities, auction regime and sustainable mining practices in the country. Rajasthan has the highest share in mineral production in India in FY21.

### 8. CII will organize the 20th edition of 'Connect 2021' in Chennai

The 20th edition of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) flagship event 'Connect 2021' will be held here from November 26 to 27.

The objective of this program is to take the state's GDP to US\$ 1,000 billion by 2030.

CII Tamil Nadu President S Chandrakumar said Chief Minister MK Stalin would inaugurate the event on November 26.

### 9. PM Modi to inaugurate Vibrant Gujarat Summit by January 2022

On January 10, 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Vibrant Gujarat Global Conference-2022 in Gandhinagar.

The theme of the three-day summit has been 'Self-reliant Gujarat to Self-Reliant India'.

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has chosen to host the conference under PM Modi's leadership.

### 10. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended 20th meeting of SCO Council of Heads of Government

External affairs minister (EAM) S Jaishankar is slated to attend the 20th meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of Government (CHG).

The meeting will take place under the chairmanship of Kazakhstan.

The 20th Meeting of SCO CHG was held in Nur-Sultan (in virtual format).

#### 11. Nagaland CM Rio, Union minister Ajay Bhatt inaugurated 3-day International Tourism Mart at Kohima

Nagaland chief minister Neiphiu Rio, Union MoS for tourism Ajay Bhatt and jointly inaugurated the 3-day-long 9th International Tourism Mart for the Northeast region at Kohima, Nagaland.

The objective of the event is to highlight the tourism potential of the region in the domestic and international markets.

Coffee table book on Nagaland was also launched on this occasion.

International Tourism Marts are organised in the North Eastern States on a rotation basis

#### 12. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressed the 9th BRICS Science & Technology Ministers' meet at New Delhi.

Dr Jitendra Singh chaired the 9th BRICS Science & Technology Ministers meet held.

He called for working towards a rightful place for BRICS in the Global Innovation Index by strengthening Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).

All the member states adopted the BRICS innovation Action Plan 2021-24, BRICS STI Declaration 2021 and Calendar of BRICS STI Activities 2022.



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## Science & Technology

### 1. Indian Astronomers find new method to study environment of extrasolar planets using polarisation of light

Indian Astronomers have found a new method to understand the atmosphere of extrasolar planets. They have shown that planets going around stars other than the Sun can be studied by observing the polarization of light and studying polarisation signatures. In the recent past, astronomers have discovered that many other stars have planets going around them. Till now, around 5000 such exoplanets have been detected.

### 2. Telecom department sets up 6G technology innovation group

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has formed a technology innovation group on sixth generation or 6G even though the 5G is yet to take off with spectrum auction for commercial deployments likely next fiscal year.

With telecom secretary K Rajaraman heading the initiative as a chairperson.

6G (sixth-generation wireless) is the successor to 5G cellular technology.

### 3. China launches world's first Earth-science satellite dedicated to UN 2030 Agenda

China successfully launched a Guangmu Earth-science satellite via a Long March-6 carrier rocket from Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center.

Guangmu is the world's first Earth-science satellite dedicated to serving the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda upon the 50th anniversary of the restoration of the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the UN.

### 4. Microsoft launching 'edge browser' for Linux operating system

Microsoft has finally announced the launch of a stable version of its 'edge browser' for the Linux operating system.

As per The Verge, the American tech giant will officially launch the 'edge' supported browser fully on Linux with regular stable channel updates.

The preview versions of 'edge' for Linux have been available for more than a year. Microsoft founders: Bill Gates, Paul Allen; Linux founder: - Linus Torvalds.

### 5. Google to invest \$1 billion in CME Group, agrees on cloud computing deal

Alphabet Inc's Google has invested \$1 billion in CME Group and has struck a separate deal to move the futures exchange operator's trading systems to the cloud.

Under the terms of the 10-year partnership between Google and CME, the Chicago-based exchange operator will begin moving its technology infrastructure to Google Cloud next year.

Google CEO: Sundar Pichai; Founded : 1998.

### 6. Japan launches small Epsilon 5 rocket with nine satellites

Japan's solid-fuel Epsilon 5 rocket successfully put nine small satellites into orbit including an orbital debris removal technology demonstrator.

This mission marks the fifth flight of the Epsilon rocket, which first flew in September 2013.

Epsilon 5 released the primary payload, Rapid Innovative Payload Demonstration Satellite No. 2 (RAISE-2). RAISE-2, built by Mitsubishi Electric Corp.,

### 7. NASA pushes back time frame for human moon mission to 2025

NASA is extending its target date for sending astronauts back to the moon to 2025 at the earliest.

Trump's administration had set the aggressive goal of returning humans to the lunar surface by 2024, an initiative named Artemis intended as a stepping stone toward the even-more-ambitious objective of sending astronauts to Mars. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is an independent agency of the USA.

### 8. South Korea tests system for controlling air taxis

South Korea demonstrated a system for controlling urban air mobility vehicles (UAM) which it hopes will serve as taxis between major airports and downtown Seoul as soon as 2025, cutting travel time by two-thirds.

A pilot flew a two-seat model made by Germany's Volocopter at Seoul's Gimpo Airport to test and demonstrate its control and coordination.

### 9. NCRA astronomers discover rare radio stars

In a vital discovery which will aid in the understanding of 'exotic' radio stars and stellar magnetospheres, a team of astronomers from the Pune-based National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA-TIFR) have used the upgraded Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (uGMRT) to discover eight stars belonging to a rare category called 'Main-sequence Radio Pulse' emitters or MRPs. The MRPs are stars hotter than Sun with unusually strong magnetic fields.

### 10. NASA launches asteroid-deflecting DART spacecraft

The world's first planetary defense system called the DART spacecraft was successfully launched by NASA from the Vandenberg US Space Force Base. It was carried aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket. The DART spacecraft was built by the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Maryland at the direction of NASA's Planetary Defense Coordination Office.

### 11. SWADESH, World's First Multimodal Brain Imaging Data and Analytics, Developed at DBT-National Brain Research Centre, Haryana

DBT-National Brain Research Centre (DBT-NBRC) have recently developed project SWADESH, a unique brain initiative focusing on certified neuroimaging, neurochemical, neuropsychological data and analytics that are made accessible to researchers for managing brain disorders.

SWADESH was inaugurated by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of Science and Technology. NBRC is the only institute in India dedicated to Neuroscience Research and Education.

### 12. Skyroot successfully test fires India's first privately developed cryogenic rocket engine

Spacetechn start-up Skyroot Aerospace announced last week that it has successfully tested Dhawan-1, India's first privately developed fully cryogenic rocket engine. Named in honour of Indian rocket scientist Satish Dhawan, the rocket successfully demonstrates the technology that will power the upper stages of its upcoming Vikram-2 orbital launch vehicle.



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## Defence

### 1. Govt nod to procure light choppers from HAL, to be manufactured in Tumkur

The government approved capital acquisition proposals for the armed forces worth Rs 7,985 crore, including procurement of 12 Light Utility Helicopters (LUHs), which the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited would manufacture in its plant at Tumkur in Karnataka

### 2. DRDO, IAF carry out joint flight tests of smart anti-airfield weapon

Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) carried out flight tests of an indigenously developed smart anti-airfield weapon. The two different configurations based on satellite navigation and electro-optical sensors have been successfully tested.

### 3. IAF's Mirage 2000 squadron takes part in Blue Flag exercise in Israel

Indian Air Force's Mirage 2000 aircraft squadron is taking part in the Blue Flag 2021 international exercise which was launched in Israel. Seven countries including Israel, Germany, Italy, Britain, France, India, Greece and the US are taking part in the war games. The Indian Mirages and the French Rafale are participating in the exercise for the first time.

### 4. Vice Admiral Hari Kumar to take charge as India's next navy chief

The Central government announced that Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar will take over as India's next navy chief on November 30, replacing Admiral Karambir Singh who retires on that day. Kumar is currently heading the Mumbai-based Western Naval Command.

The 59-year-old officer was commissioned into the navy in January 1983. Chief of defence staff (CDS): General Bipin Rawat.

### 5. Sheel Vardhan Singh appointed Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) chief, Atul Karwal to head NDRF

Senior IPS officers Sheel Vardhan Singh & Atul Karwal were appointed as chiefs of Central Industrial Security Force and National Disaster Response Force respectively.

Singh, a 1986 batch Indian Police Service officer of Bihar cadre, is currently Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau. Singh has been appointed as the Director General, CISF up to 31.08.2023. Karwal is presently working as the Director of National Police Academy, Hyderabad.

### 6. Fourth submarine of Project- 75 Yard 11878 delivered to Indian Navy

The fourth submarine of the Project ' 75, Yard 11878 was delivered to the Indian Navy.

Project ' 75 includes the construction of six submarines of Scorpene design.

These submarines are being constructed at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France.

### 7. Tejas LCA and IAF's Sarang and Suryakiran aerobatic teams to participate for the first time at the Dubai Air Show

The Indian Air Force's (IAF's) Suryakiran aerobatic team and Tejas, India's indigenously designed and manufactured Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), have landed in Dubai to showcase their aerial manoeuvres for the first time at the prestigious Dubai Air Show. The biennial Dubai Air Show is scheduled to be held at the Al Maktoum International Airport from November 14 to 18.

### 8. President Kovind bestows honorary rank of General of Indian Army on Nepal CoAS

In continuation of a tradition that started in 1950, Nepal Army Chief Gen Prabhu Ram Sharma was conferred with the honorary rank of 'General of the Indian Army' by President Ram Nath Kovind.

Gen Sharma is on a four-day visit to India to explore ways to expand bilateral defence cooperation.

Indian Chief of Defence Staff: Bipin Rawat; Chief of Army Staff:- Manoj Mukund Naravane.

### 9. 32nd edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT)

The 32nd Indo-Thai CORPAT between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy is being conducted from 12 ' 14 November 2021. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk, an indigenously built Missile Corvette and His Majesty's Thailand Ship (HTMS) Tayanchon, a Khamrosin Class Anti-submarine Patrol Craft, along with Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both navies are participating.

### 10. India & France's infantries to collaborate in counter-terror army exercise EX SHAKTI 21

India and France carry out three biennial training exercises namely, Exercise GARUDA with Indian Airforce, Exercise VARUNA with Indian Navy and Exercise SHAKTI with Indian Army.

The 6th Edition of the biennial training exercise 'EX SHAKTI 2021' is being conducted from 15 to 26 November 2021 in Frejus, France. Exercise SHAKTI will focus on Counter-Terrorism operations in semi-urban terrain.

#### [11. 6th-edition of Indo-France joint military exercise 'EX-SHAKTI 2021' begins at French port town of Frejus](#)

6th edition of Indo France joint military exercise 'EX-SHAKTI 2021' is being conducted at the French port town of Frejus. The 12-day long bilateral exercise is to be held b/w 15th to 26th of Nov'21.

A platoon strength of a Gorkha Rifles Infantry Battalion is representing the Indian Army in this 12-day bilateral exercise. India & France: Exercise GARUDA with Indian Airforce, Exercise VARUNA with Indian Navy

#### [12. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to inaugurate Rashtra Raksha SamarpanParv in Jhansi](#)

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate the three-day 'Rashtra Raksha SamarpanParv' in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh on the birth anniversary of Rani Lakshmi Bai. This is part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations. Rani Lakshmi Bai is the epitome of bravery and courage and a great national icon of Rashtra Raksha and India's Independence struggle.

#### [13. Indian Ocean Naval Symposium \(IONS\) ' 2021 Conclave Of Chiefs, Paris, France](#)

The 7th edition of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Conclave of Chiefs is being hosted by the French Navy at Paris in November 2021. Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command, is leading a two member Indian Naval delegation for this Conclave.

#### [14. Western Naval command conducts exercise prasthan in western offshore development area](#)

An offshore security exercise, code-named 'Prasthan' was conducted in the Offshore Development Area (ODA) off Mumbai by the Western Naval Command (WNC). The exercise provided all stakeholders a realistic scenario to assess their readiness to respond to and combat contingencies in the Western ODA, as also to operate together in a coordinated manner. Western Naval Command is headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

#### [15. PM Modi hands over indigenously developed defence equipment to armed forces, giving major push to Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence](#)

India has been among the largest arms buyer countries in the world. But now, India is working to make its forces self-reliant. Jhansi will be a major player in this enterprise, PM Modi said. He was addressing the concluding ceremony of the Rashtra Raksha SamparpanParv in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh where he dedicated to the nation multiple initiatives in defence sector. India was world's second-largest arms importer in 2015-19.

#### [16. Centre to procure two fixed base full mission simulators for Jaguar Aircraft](#)

Centre signs contract to procure two Fixed Base Full Mission Simulators for Jaguar Aircraft from HAL for IAF with a five years comprehensive annual maintenance contract. They would be procured for Rs.357 crore.

These simulators would be installed at Air Force Stations Jamnagar and Gorakhpur. HAL is a state-owned aerospace and defence company, headquartered in Bengaluru.

#### [17. 6th edition of Indo-French joint military exercise Ex SHAKTI 2021 commences at Draguignan, France](#)

The Sixth Edition of Indo - French joint military exercise Ex SHAKTI 2021 has commenced at the Military School of Draguignan, France.

The contingent apart from joint training went to visit MAZARGUES War Cemetery in Marseilles where 1,002 Indian soldiers of the First World War have been cremated.

Both contingents together presented a Guard of Honor to commemorate the valour of braves.

#### [18. IAF conducts 'Symphony orchestra' at Golconda Fort](#)

A live 'Symphony orchestra' was conducted by the Air Force Band of the Indian Air Force (IAF) at Golconda Fort as part of 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' and 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations. Air Force Station Hakimpet conducted the mega event in a joyful and patriotic atmosphere. The Indian Air Force Band, with its dazzling performance, enchanted the audience.

#### [19. INS Visakhapatnam formally commissioned into Indian Navy](#)

INS Visakhapatnam was formally commissioned into the Indian Navy in the presence of Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai. INS Visakhapatnam is a P15B stealth-guided missile destroyer indigenously designed by the Indian Navy.

## 20. 15th Biennial Trilateral Coast Guard Exercise Between India, Maldives & Sri Lanka Underway

The 15th edition of the biennial Trilateral Exercise 'Dosti' between the Maldives, India, & Sri Lanka is taking place in the Maldives.

The Indian Coast Guard vessels (ICGS) Vajra and Apoorva, as well as the Sri Lanka Coast Guard vessel SLCGS Suraksha, have arrived in the Maldives for the drill. Notably, this year commemorates the 30th anniversary of the exercise's inception.

## 21. Fourth Submarine Of Project-75 'INS Vela' Commissioned At Naval Dockyard, Mumbai

INS Vela, the fourth submarine in the series of six submarines of Project-75, was commissioned in the presence of Admiral Karambir Singh, Chief of the Naval Staff.

The Scorpene Class submarines are being built in India by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group (earlier DCNS), France.

## 22. NCC celebrating 73rd anniversary of its raising

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) will celebrate its 73rd anniversary of its raising on 28th November. The raising day is being celebrated all over the country with cadets participating in marches, blood donation camps and social development programmes. NCC has successfully overcome the restrictions imposed by COVID-19 Pandemic and effectively executed the assigned mission.



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## Books & Authors

### 1. Book revisits life of Rani Laxmibai's lawyer John Lang

John Lang, the Australian writer-lawyer settled in India in the 19th century who fought many cases against the British and also represented Rani Laxmibai in her legal battle against the annexation of her kingdom of Jhansi by the East India Company. "John Lang: Wanderer of Hindoostan, Slanderer of Hindoostanee, Lawyer for the Ranee" by Amii Ranjan is about Lang's life.

### 2. Sudha Murty's new book 'The Sage with Two Horns'

One of India's favourite authors Sudha Murty has a Diwali gift for children ' her latest book 'The Sage with Two Horns' in which she tells numerous lesser-known and fascinating stories that have been lost in the pages of Indian mythology.

This is the fifth and last book of her 'Unusual Tales from mythology' series featuring kings and queens, gods and goddesses, sages, etc.

### 3. "Nehru: The Debates that Defined India" by Tripurdaman Singh and Adeel Hussain

"Nehru: The Debates that Defined India" is co-authored by Tripurdaman Singh and Adeel Hussain.

A new book serves as a revisionist exploration of India's first and longest-serving prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru and investigates the overlooked role of his contemporaries and opponents in shaping his political vision.

### 4. Gopi Chand launches his autobiography

India's chief national badminton coach P. Gopi Chand formally launched his autobiography Shuttler's Flick: Making every match count, co-authored by Priya Kumar.

### 5. "Unshackling India: Hard Truths and Clear Choices for Economic Revival" by Ajay Chhibber and Salman Anees Soz

The new book examines whether India can use the next 25 years, when it will reach the hundredth year of independence, to not only restructure its economy but rejuvenate its democratic energy and unshackle its potential to become a genuinely developed economy by 2047.

### 6. Sunrise Over Ayodhya by Salman Khurshid

On 9 November 2019, the Supreme Court, in a unanimous verdict, cleared the way for the construction of a Ram temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya.

Through this book, Salman Khurshid explores how the greatest opportunity that the judgment offers is a reaffirmation of India as a secular society.

### 7. Smriti Irani turns author with debut novel 'Lal Salaam'

Union Minister Smriti Zubin Irani has turned author with her debut novel 'Lal Salaam'. The novel, inspired by the tragic killings of 76 CRPF personnel in Dantewada in April 2010, is a tribute to the exceptional men and women who have given a lifetime of service to the country, especially in confronting the challenges in the red corridor. It will hit the stands on Nov 29. Smriti Irani is the present Union Minister of Women and child Development.

### 8. Abhijit Banerjee's - New book titled 'Cooking to Save your Life'

Economist Abhijit Banerjee explores the social dimension of food in his latest book 'Cooking to Save Your Life' with grocery runs, dinner parties and lemon dal.

The book, divided into segments he calls them chapters such as soups, vegetables, meats and more.

The book has illustrations by France-based Cheyenne Olivier and published by Juggernaut Books.

### 9. HarperCollins India presents RESOLVED: Uniting Nations in a Divided World by Ban Ki-moon

HarperCollins is delighted to publish an extraordinary and inspirational life story, Ban Ki-moon's personal account of his decade at the helm of the United Nations.

RESOLVED: Uniting Nations in a Divided World is Ban Ki-moon's personal account of his decade at the helm of the organization during a period of historic turmoil and promise. He was the eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations

## Miscellaneous

### 1. Gujarati New Year - BestuVaras being celebrated in different parts of country on 5 November

Gujarati people, native to the state of Gujarat in India celebrate the next day after Diwali as Gujarati New Year. The Gujarati new year is traditionally known as BestuVaras or Varsha Pratipada and people celebrate this day by preparing a new book of accounts called the Chopda and worship Goddess Lakshmi for peace and prosperity.

### 2. 'Vax' chosen as Word of the Year 2021 by the Oxford Dictionary

The Oxford Dictionary has declared 'Vax' as the word of the year for the year 2021 due to its frequent usage throughout the year as medical breakthroughs happened around the world.

The word Vax is defined as, "a colloquialism meaning either vaccine or vaccination as a noun and vaccinate as a verb."

### 3. Srinagar joins UNESCO network of creative cities

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, is among the 49 cities selected worldwide to join the UNESCO creative cities network (UCCN) with Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailing the inclusion as a "fitting recognition" for the vibrant cultural ethos of the old city.

It has been designated as a creative city of craft and folk arts.

UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay

### 4. Lava becomes first Indian brand to launch 5G smartphone

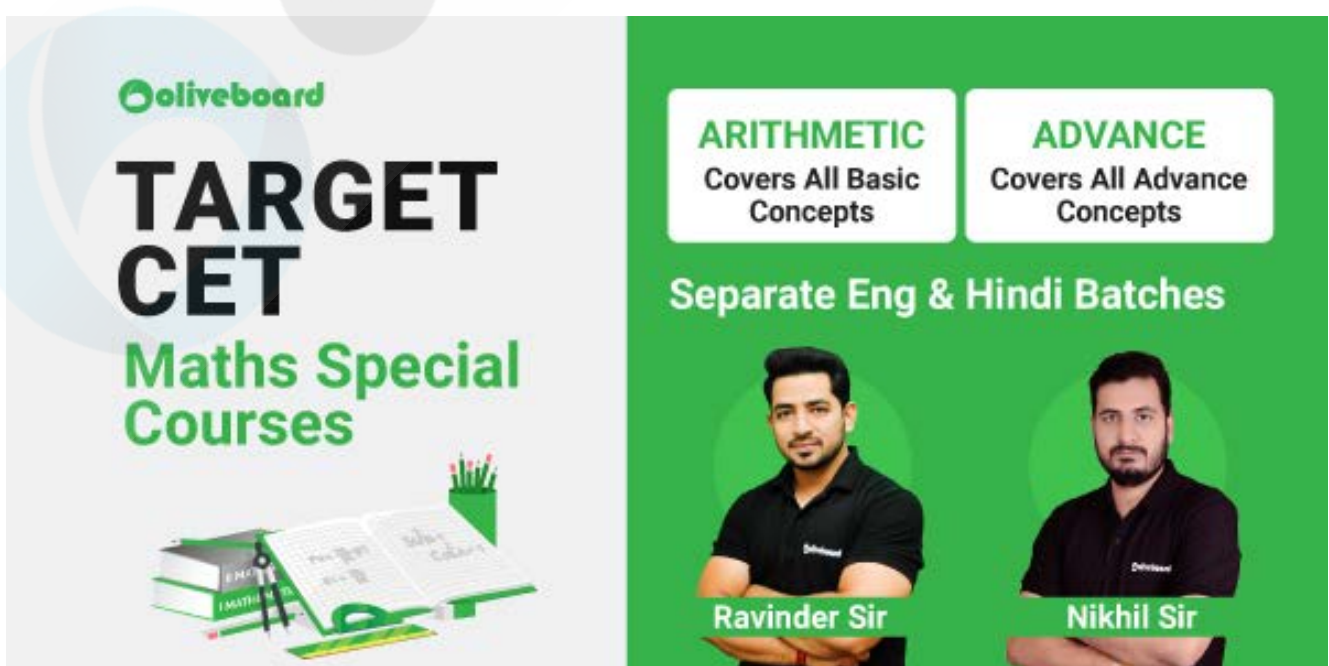
Home-grown mobile phone company Lava International has become the first Indian brand to launch 5G smartphones for domestic consumers.

The smartphone launched under the brand name 'Agni' has been developed by Lava in India and is getting manufactured at its plant in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

### 5. Porsche launches all-electric Taycan range in India

German luxury sports carmaker Porsche launched its all-electric Taycan range in India.

The Taycan is Porsche's first-ever, fully electric model and will be available in four saloon models comprising the Taycan, Taycan 4S, Turbo and Turbo S. A 'Cross Turismo' variant will also be available in the 4S, Turbo and Turbo S versions.



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## Obituary

### [1. Kannada Star Puneeth Rajkumar Dies At 46](#)

Kannada Star Puneeth Rajkumar Dies At 46. Puneeth Rajkumar was the son of legendary actor Rajkumar. He was known to fans as "Appu" - after the 2002 film in which he played his first lead role - and "Power Star." Puneeth's older brother Shiva Rajkumar is also a hugely popular actor.

### [2. Eminent Oncologist Dr M Krishnan Nair Dies At 81](#)

Eminent oncologist and Padma Shri awardee Dr M Krishnan Nair, the founding director of the famed Regional Cancer Centre, died in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, following age-related ailments.

Nair was known for his various path-breaking initiatives in the field of cancer treatment especially in the areas of community and paediatric oncology and palliative care.

### [3. Renowned coach from Delhi Tarak Sinha dies aged 71 of lung cancer](#)

Tarak Sinha, the renowned coach from Delhi's famous Sonnet Cricket Club, has died after a prolonged illness.

Sinha was 71. Sinha was a father figure at Sonnet, which has produced some of the country's top domestic and international cricketers, such as Surinder Khanna, Sanjeev Sharma, Manoj Prabhakar, Rishabh Pant. Sinha was conferred with the lifetime Dronacharya Award in 2018.

### [4. Padma Shri awardee Koneru Ramakrishna Rao passes away at 89.](#)

Eminent academician, psychologist, former Chancellor of GITAM Deemed-to-be University and former Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University (AU), Padma Shri Koneru Ramakrishna Rao, passed away on 9 November 2021 in Vizag. He was also a former chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Council of Higher Education (APSCHE).

### [5. F.W. de Klerk, South African president who oversaw end of apartheid, dies at 85](#)

Former president of South Africa, Frederik Willem (FW) de Klerk, passed away recently. He won praise worldwide for his role in scrapping apartheid and shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Mandela in 1993.

The following year Mandela won South Africa's first multi-racial elections with his African National Congress (ANC).

### [6. Historian, Padma Vibhushan Babasaheb Purandare dies at 99 in Pune hospital](#)

Renowned historian and author Babasaheb Purandare passed away in Pune after a brief illness. He was running the 100th year of his age.

Babasaheb was a well-known orator, ballad singer, theatre artist, and history chronicler who inspired the modern-day youth to follow the footsteps of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Shivshahir Babasaheb Purandare, Balwant Moreshwar Purandare was born on 29th July 1922.

### [7. Renowned Hindi author Mannu Bhandari passes away at 90](#)

Renowned Hindi author Mannu Bhandari passed away at Narayana hospital in Gurugram, Haryana. She was 90 years old.

Aapka Bunt, Mahabhoj, and Yahi Sach Hai are some of her works in Hindi. Her famous novel 'Yahi Sach Hai' was adapted into a movie, 'Rajnigandha', in 1974.

### [8. Former South Korean dictator Chun Doo-hwan dies aged 90](#)

Former South Korean president, Chun Doo-hwan, who presided over the infamous Gwangju massacre during his iron-fisted eight-year rule, has died aged 90. Chun had multiple myeloma, a blood cancer which was in remission, and his health had deteriorated recently. Chun's eight-year rule in the presidential Blue House was characterised by brutality and political repression. Blue House- executive office & official residence of Republic of Korea's head of state.

### [9. Broadway legend Stephen Sondheim, whose work transformed musical theatre, passes away at 91](#)

Broadway composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim, who helped American musical theater evolve beyond pure entertainment and reach new artistic heights with such works as 'West Side Story', 'Into the Woods' and 'Sweeney Todd', died at the age of 91. Sondheim's eight Tony Awards for his lyrics and music surpassed the total of any other composer. In 2008 he also won a Special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement.

#### 10. Broadway legend Stephen Sondheim dies, aged 91

Broadway composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim died at the age of 91.

The legendary songwriter is recognized for helping American musical theatre evolve beyond pure entertainment and reach new artistic heights with such works as "West Side Story," "Into the Woods" and "Sweeney Todd."

#### 11. Frank Williams, founder Of Williams F1 Team, Dies Aged 79

Sir Frank Williams, the founder and former team principal of Williams Racing, has died.

Williams took his motor racing team from an empty carpet warehouse to the summit of Formula One, overseeing 114 victories, a combined 16 drivers' and constructors' world championships, while becoming the longest-serving team boss in the sport's history.

Williams founded the team in 1977.

#### 12. Dance choreographer Shiva Shankar no more

Renowned dance choreographer Shiva Shankar died due to Covid-19 related complications. He was 72.

The National Award-winning artiste Shiva Shankar 'Master' as he is known in the film industry, had worked in nearly 800 films covering 10 languages.

His choreography for the 'DheeraDheera...' number in Rajamouli's Maghadheera won him the National Award in 2011.

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## Person in news

### 1. Unmukt Chand becomes the first Indian male to sign up for BBL

Unmukt Chand has become the first Indian male cricketer to sign up for the Big Bash League as he is set to feature in the Melbourne Renegades side in the upcoming edition.

The 28-year-old, who led India to the Under-19 World Cup title in 2012, has represented India A, apart from featuring in teams like Delhi Daredevils, Mumbai Indians, and Rajasthan Royals in the IPL.

### 2. Rashid Khan reaches 400 wickets in T20 cricket, does so in quickest time

Afghanistan's premier leg-spinner Rashid Khan picked up his 400th wicket in competitive T20 cricket during the team's T20 World Cup match against New Zealand.

The 23-year-old spinner reached the milestone when he bowled New Zealand opener Martin Guptill with a wrong'un in the 9th over of the Kiwi innings.

### 3. Sankalp Gupta becomes India's 71st GM

Sankalp Gupta has become India's 71st Grandmaster by scoring 6.5 points and finishing second in the GM Ask 3 round-robin event in Arandjelovac, Serbia.

The Maharashtra player also touched the 2500 Elo rating mark during the tournament.

To achieve the GM title, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points.

### 4. Bhaskar Bhatt appointed head coach of senior women's boxing team

The Indian women's boxing team will get a new coach in former boxer Bhaskar Bhatt.

Bhaskar Bhatt is set to replace former head coach Mohammad Ali Qamar, who was the first Indian boxer to win a Commonwealth Games gold medal in the 2002 edition.

Bhaskar Bhatt, a national bronze medallist, has been a boxing coach since 1992. Bhatt had been in charge of the women's youth team since 2017.

### 5. Rohit Sharma becomes third cricketer to score 3,000 runs in men's T20Is

Indian batter Rohit Sharma has completed 3000 T20I runs and became the third cricketer in the world to achieve this feat.

Rohit reached the 3000 run mark in ICC men's T20 World Cup match against Namibia.

Virat Kohli is at the top of the tally with 3227 runs, which is followed by New Zealand's Martin Guptill & India's Rohit Sharma with 3115 and 3008 runs respectively.

### 6. AkshayKarnewar scripts historic T20 world record, bowls 4 maidens in 4 overs

Vidarbha bowler AkshayKarnewar broke the world record for the most economical figures ever bowled in T20 cricket as he did not concede a single run in a Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy match against Manipur.

Karnewar, 29, producing figures of 4-4-0-2, broke Pakistan pacer Mohammad Irfan's record to become the first player to bowl four overs, four maidens in men's T20 cricket. Vidarbha is the north-eastern region of the Indian state of Maharashtra.

### 7. Plaeto signs Rahul Dravid as brand ambassador

Plaeto, a footwear brand for children, has roped in Rahul Dravid as its brand ambassador and mentor. The brand has announced the partnership along with a campaign featuring Dravid.

### 8. Maharashtra government to appoint Salman Khan as Covid vaccination ambassador

The Maharashtra government has roped in actor Salman Khan in a bid to encourage members of the Muslim community to get vaccinated against Covid-19.

There is hesitation about receiving anti-coronavirus vaccines in Muslim-majority communities, and the government will enlist the help of Bollywood actor Salman Khan to persuade people to get the vaccine. Maharashtra CM: Uddhav Thackeray; Governor: - Bhagat Singh Koshyari

### 9. Renowned actor Hema Malini receives Indian Film Personality of the Year Award 2021

Renowned actress and Member of Parliament Hema Malini received the Indian Film Personality of the year award at the ceremony.

The King of all the World' directed by Carlos Saura is the Opening Film. As many as 55 films across the world will be showcased at the festival under the World Panorama Section. The International Film Competition will be judged by international jury. Chairperson of International Jury : Iranian filmmaker RakhshnBanietamad.



#### 10. 2021 is a watershed year for India: Kumar Mangalam Birla

Chairman of the Aditya Birla Group, Kumar Mangalam Birla said that 2021 has been a "watershed year" for the Indian economy after the reforms of 1991. 30 years after the first wave of reforms in 1991, this year has seen an investment boom in the country making India an economy of the size of USD three trillion. India is a fast growing economy with a diverse society. A Watershed year means an event or period that is important as it represents a big change



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## Insurance

### 1. PhonePe, Liberty General Insurance partner to offer motor insurance

Liberty General Insurance Ltd has partnered with PhonePe to offer motor insurance digitally. Through PhonePe, Liberty General Insurance's motor insurance policy provides easy accessibility to the motor insurance cover, especially to the digitally savvy generation.

PhonePe ventured into the distribution of insurance in 2020. PhonePe is headquartered in Bangalore; CEO: Sameer Nigam; Parent organization: Flipkart.

### 2. Bajaj Allianz partners TropoGo for Drone Insurance

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has partnered TropoGo, a deep-tech start-up, for the distribution of its new Drone Insurance cover.

The policy will cover both the vehicle and its payload as well as third-party liability.

The policy can be extended to cover BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Sight) and night flying. It will cover the cost of replacement/repair, damage to Unmanned Aircraft System.



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## India & World

### 1. India, Sri Lanka revive Parliament Friendship Association

India- Sri Lanka Parliamentary Friendship Association for the 9th Parliament of Sri Lanka was established at the Parliament complex in the presence of Speaker of Parliament, Mahinda YapaAbeywardana. High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay was also present.

The association existed in the past & is being revived for the current Parliament, elected in August 2020. Minister Chambal Rajapaksa was elected as the President of the Association.

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## Environment

### 1. COP26: India will reach net zero emissions by 2070, says PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave a five-pronged target for India and finally committed to a Net Zero-emission target by 2070, joining the likes of the US, the UK, and China. Net Zero is achieved when the amount of greenhouse gas produced is offset by the amount removed from the atmosphere. Prime Minister also upped the renewable energy target of the country to 500 Gw by 2030.

### 2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Infrastructure for Resilient Island States

India launched an ambitious initiative - Infrastructure for the Resilient Island States (IRIS) - for developing the infrastructure of small island nations, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying it will give new hope, new confidence, and satisfaction of doing something for the most vulnerable countries facing the biggest threat from climate change. The IRIS initiative is a part of Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

### 3. Manipal-based Bharatiya Vikas Trust gets Ashden Award 2021

The Manipal-based Bharatiya Vikas Trust (BVT) has won the Ashden Award for 2021. BVT has bagged the Ashden Award in the 'Energy Access Skills' category.

The President of Costa Rica, Carlos Alvarado Quesada, presented the award to Sudhir Kulkarni, Master Trainer of BVT, and Sudeeptha Ghosh, consultant of BVT, at Glasgow.

### 4. New tree species named after Muthuvar tribe

A new tree species of the genus *Cryptocarya* spotted in Edamalakkudy in Idukki district has been named after a tribe from the locality.

'*Cryptocarya muthuvariana*' has been named so to honour the Muthuvar tribe and as it was discovered in their neighbourhood, researchers responsible for the identification said.



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## Apps & Portals

### 1. Climate Equity Monitor: Online dashboard for assessing emissions, energy and resource consumption goes live

The Climate Equity Monitor focuses on equity and climate action from a data and evidence-based perspective will encourage a vigorous discussion on this crucial issue and engage experts from all countries. The Climate Equity Monitor provides an online dashboard for assessing, at the international level, equity in climate action, inequalities in emissions, energy and resource. The website encourage a vigorous discussion and engages experts from all countries

### 2. IREDA launches 'Whistle Blower' portal

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA), a PSU under the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) launched a 'Whistle-blower Portal', as a part of 'Vigilance Awareness Week 2021'. Through this portal, IREDA employees can raise concerns related to fraud, corruption, abuse of power etc. On this occasion, latest issue of Vigilance journal 'Pahal' was also released by IREDA.

### 3. National Internet Exchange of India launches 'Digital Payment Gateway'

National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) is a not-for-profit Company under the aegis of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) with the mission to make the internet accessible to everyone.

To facilitate its customers and partners, NIXI has gone digital by enabling digital payments across its three business units by integrating payment gateways. NIXI has partnered with PayU and NSDL to offer the Payment gateway services.

### 4. India's E-Amrit web portal for EV-related information launched at COP26

E-Amrit is a one-stop destination for all information on electric vehicles' busting myths around the adoption of EVs, their purchase, investment opportunities, policies, subsidies, etc. The portal has been developed and hosted by NITI Aayog under a collaborative knowledge exchange programme with the UK government and as part of the UK-India Joint Roadmap 2030.

### 5. Law Minister Kiren Rijju launches Citizen's Tele-Law mobile app that will cover 75,000 Gram Panchayats

The app was launched as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, celebrated by the Department of Justice from 8 to 14 November. The app would connect the beneficiaries directly with panel lawyers offering legal advice and consultation

### 6. IndusInd Bank launches a one-stop mobile app for merchants

IndusInd Bank, announced the launch of 'Indus Merchant Solutions' a comprehensive mobile application to enable merchants, retailers & professionals to carry out banking transactions digitally, on a single platform.

The all-new app will enable merchants and retailers to undertake an array of activities such as accept instant cashless payments on mobile phones from customers. IndusInd Bank Limited is a new-generation Indian bank headquartered in Mumbai.

## Acquisitions & Mergers

### 1. CCI approves acquisition by HDFC Life Insurance Company of 100% shareholding in Exide Life Insurance Company Limited

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves acquisition by HDFC Life Insurance Company (Acquirer) of 100% shareholding in Exide Life Insurance Company Limited (Target) under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002.

The Proposed Combination involves acquisition of fully paid-up equity shares, representing 100% of Target by the Acquirer from Exide Industries Limited

### 2. NCLT approves GAIL buying IL&FS's 26% stake in OTPC

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has approved state-owned gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd's acquisition of bankrupt Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services' 26 per cent stake in ONGC Tripura Power Company (OTPC).

ONGC holds 50 per cent interest in the company in the project that supplies electricity to the northeastern states.

NCLT- quasi-judicial body in India that adjudicates issues relating to Indian companies.

### 3. Flipkart to acquire majority stake in online pharmacy SastaSundar.com

Walmart-owned Flipkart has said it will acquire majority stake in Kolkata-based SastaSundar Marketplace that owns and operates online pharmacy and digital healthcare platform, SastaSundar.com. Flipkart said it is foraying into the healthcare sector through the launch of Flipkart Health. SastaSundar.com offers a digital healthcare and pharmacy platform with 490 pharmacies. Flipkart CEO: Kalyan Krishnamurthy; HQ: Bangalore

### 4. LIC gets RBI approval to raise stake in Kotak Mahindra Bank

Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to increase its stake in the Kotak Mahindra Bank.

The approval is to raise LIC's stake in the bank up to 9.99 percent from the current 4.96 percent it has in the private lender.

The approval of the central bank will be valid for one year.



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## Agri-Business

### 1. India records close to 15% rise in export of agricultural and processed food products in April-October

In a major boost to export prospects of agricultural produce, India registered a surge in export of agricultural and processed food products in April-October period of FY22, in comparison to the corresponding seven month period of FY21. APEDA exports up by 14.7% to \$11.6 Billion in first seven months of current FY from \$10.1 Billion over corresponding period last FY. Rice makes up about half of APEDA exports basket.

### 2. PM Modi Announces Repeal Of the Three Farm Laws

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in an address to the nation, has announced that the three contentious farm laws introduced in 2020 will be repealed. PM Modi said his government did its best to educate and inform the farmers about the laws and will continue to keep working for their betterment. Agriculture is a State subject as per Seventh Schedule of Indian Constitution.



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## PSUs

### 1. NMDC Celebrates its 64th Foundation Day

National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), a public enterprise under Ministry of Steel celebrated its 64th Formation Day at its Head Office - Hyderabad and at all major projects with great vigour and enthusiasm. NMDC, the largest iron ore producer in the country was incorporated on 15th November 1958 and has completed 63 years of service to the nation.

### 2. Indian Oil, BPCL, HPCL launch Model Retail Outlet Scheme

Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited announced the launch of Model Retail Outlet Scheme and a Digital Customer Feedback Program called Darpan@petrolpump.

Scheme involves an intense 5 Level evaluation process of over 70000 retail outlets on a set of core service and facility parameters & standard of customer amenities.

The initiative was inaugurated by the Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri

Arunachal Pradesh

### 1. Dr Jitendra inaugurates Biotechnology Centre for Northeast tribals

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh has inaugurated a new Biotechnology Centre for Northeast tribals in remote area of Arunachal Pradesh at Kimin. Centre aims:- Conservation of the local bio-resources using biotechnological tools.

Assam

### 1. World Bank approves Rs 770 cr for Assam's Inland Water Transportation

The Inland Water Transport (IWT) department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Bank for a Rs 770 cr loan to develop river transportation in Assam.

Assam & World Bank are exploring possibilities to work together on infrastructure schemes and the latest technologies.

The central government would refund 80% of the approved amount.

### 2. AMTRON signs a tripartite MOU for setting up a strategic cyber intelligence Centre of excellence at Tech City

Assam Electronics Development Corporation Limited (AMTRON) has signed a tripartite MOU with Mastercard Asia/Pacific Pte Ltd. and I-Sec Security Services Pvt. Ltd for setting up a strategic cyber intelligence centre of excellence at Tech City, Guwahati. The Cyber COE is envisaged to provide intelligence services to the Government of India, state governments, PSUs etc.

Haryana

### 1. Haryana: Chief Minister Manohar Lal launched Uttam Seed Portal

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has launched the Uttam Seed Portal in Chandigarh. With this, much better quality seeds will be made available to the farmers. Government agencies and private seed producers would also be involved in this.

Its objective is to provide quality seeds to the farmers in a transparent manner, which will increase their yield and income.

Haryana governor:-BandaruDattatreya

### 2. Shri Hardeep Singh Puri unveils statue of Maharani Lakshmi Bai in a college at Hisar

Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs & Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Hardeep S. Puri today unveiled the statue of Rani Lakshmi Bai at the Maharani Lakshmi Bai college for Women, Bhiwani Rohilla in Hisar (Haryana) through video conferencing.

Rani Lakshmi Bai as a major symbol of revolt against the repression of British Raj.

Jharkhand

### 1. Jharkhand Foundation Day 2021 : 15th November

November 15 marks the Jharkhand Foundation Day. The beautiful state that is located in the northeastern part of India and is also called 'The land of forest' or 'Bushland'. It was on November 15 in 2000 when the Chotanagpur area was segregated from the southern half of Bihar to give rise to another state named Jharkhand. By doing so, the latter became the 28th Indian state. Jharkhand foundation day coincides with Bhagawan Birsa Munda's Birth Anniversary.



## Karnataka

### 1. Karnataka government launches Janasevaka scheme offering home delivery

Bengaluru Karnataka chief minister Basavaraj Bommai has launched the 'Janasevaka' scheme offering 58 government services at the doorstep of citizens. In the first phase, the scheme will be available in all 198 municipal wards in Bengaluru.

Under the scheme, citizens will be charged a facilitation fee of Rs115 along with department fee for the requested service.

### 2. 'Mumbai-Karnataka' Region Renamed 'Kittur Karnataka' by Bommai Government

The Karnataka government has decided to rename the 'Mumbai-Karnataka' region as 'Kittur Karnataka'. The region comprising Uttara Kannada, Belagavi, Dharwad, Vijayapura, Bagalkot, Gadag & Haveri districts was referred to as Mumbai-Karnataka region as they were under Maratha rule once & were included into the state of Karnataka at the time of formation of states.

## Kerala

### 1. Kerala Tourism launches STREET project for experiential tourism

In a pioneering initiative to take tourism deep into the state's interiors and rural hinterland, Kerala Tourism will launch the 'STREET' project in select spots in seven districts, which would help visitors experience the diversity of offerings in these locales. In the first phase, the project would be implemented in 7 different districts.

## Madhya Pradesh

### 1. Madhya Pradesh Cabinet approves new scheme for Covid-19 treatment & management

Madhya Pradesh cabinet approved the new scheme named 'number 7659' for the implementation of activities related to Covid-19, treatment and management of Covid-19. At present, Rs 75 crore is available from re-appropriation for the implementation of the scheme. There is a total proposal of Rs 480 crore. Madhya Pradesh CM :- Shivraj Singh Chouhan; Governor:-Mangubhai C. Patel

### 2. Patalpani Railway Station in Indore to Be Named After Tribal Icon Tantya Bhil

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced to name Patalpani railway station in Indore and two other landmarks in that city after tribal icon Tantya Bhil.

Indore's BhanwarKuan intersection and MR 10 bus stand, being developed at the cost of Rs 53 crore, will also be named after Tantya Bhil.

## Maharashtra

### 1. Maharashtra Becomes First In India To Introduce 10 Year Wildlife Action Plan

Maharashtra became the first state in the country to release a 'Wildlife Action Plan'. The course of action is for 10 years (2021-2030) where the effect of climate change on wildlife and other ecosystems within the state will be recognised and studied, in order to be prepared to tackle it.

The state's plan aims to mitigate the problems caused by climate change.

Chief Minister: Uddhav Thackeray, Governor:- Bhagat Singh Koshyari

### 2. Maharashtra signs MoU to boost adoption of electric vehicles(EVs)

Maharashtra government signed an MoU with the Indian arm of the USA-based Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) to support adoption of EVs in Maharashtra.

The MoU was signed in Glasgow amid the ongoing COP26 summit.

Maharashtra's new draft Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy 2021 aims to bring at least 146,000 new battery-operated electric vehicles (BEVs) on state roads by 2025. Maharashtra: CM: Uddhav Thackeray; Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari

### 3. CIDCO to adopt Maharashtra Unified DCR for rapid development of NAINA project

The Maharashtra government's town planning authority, the City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO), has decided to adopt certain provisions of the recently introduced Unified Development Control Promotion Regulations (UDCPR) for rapid and efficient development of the Navi Mumbai Airport Influence Notified Area (NAINA).

## Meghalaya

### 1. 44th Wangala Festival | 100 drums festival of Meghalaya held at Wangala Adam at Chibragre

The Wangala Festival is observed and celebrated with enthusiasm and zeal in Meghalaya. It is one of the most significant and important festivals of the Garo tribe that also attracts a lot of tourists during this time.

The festival is celebrated in honour of the Sun God Saljong and marks the end of the long harvest season.

This year the festival began on November 12. Also known as the 100 drum festival, it has been celebrated since the year 1976.

## 2. In A First, Drone Used To Deliver Medicines In Meghalaya

An e-VTOL (Virtual take-off and landing ) Drone AquilaX2 was used to deliver medicines to a remote primary health centre in Meghalaya's West Khasi Hills district, 25 km away from the district headquarter covering a distance of 25 kms in less than 25 minutes.

Nagaland

### 1. Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar virtually inaugurates Kisan Bhawan and Beekeeper Conference in Nagaland

Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar virtually inaugurated the Kisan Bhawan and Beekeeper Conference at the Central Institute of Horticulture, Nagaland.

India produced 1.25 lakh metric tonnes of honey and exported 60 thousand metric tonnes in 2020-21. Nagaland CM: Neiphiu Rio; Governor: Jagdish Mukhi.

Odisha

### 1. 'Boita Bandana' festival celebrated in Odisha

Kartika Purnima (Boita Bandana) is celebrated on the full moon of the Kartika month where people across the State head for the nearest water body to set afloat tiny banana, paper, or thermocol boats with diyas, betel leaves, crackers, fruits and coins.

The festival is a mass commemoration of the state's glorious maritime history when it was known as Kalinga.

### 2. Mahanadi Coalfields to set up 50-MW solar plant in Odisha

Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL) will set up a 50-megawatt solar power plant in Odisha's Sambalpur district at a cost of Rs 301.92 crore as part of its goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2024. This project will reduce carbon dioxide emission by 91,020 tonnes per annum and carbon offsets of around 24,824 tonnes per annum.

Tamil Nadu

### 1. TN Govt Builds First SPV to Handle Three Critical Natural Conservation Missions

The Tamil Nadu government has taken a massive step in climate action by setting up the first ever Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company. This initiative has been taken to professionally manage three critical natural conservation missions '

# Tamil Nadu Climate Change,

# Tamil Nadu Green and

# Tamil Nadu Wetlands.

Telangana

### 1. India's Largest Landfill Based Biogas Plant Inaugurated In Hyderabad

Telangana's capital city Hyderabad is now home to India's largest landfill gas-to-compressed biogas plant as Ramky Enviro has inaugurated the facility at the Hyderabad Integrated Municipal Solid Waste site.

The project converts landfill gas into compressed biogas& offers significant benefits such as carbon sequestration, reduced emissions of GHGs into the environment.

### 2. Bhadrachalam in Telengana added as a destination in the IRCTC's Ramayana Circuit train

Bhadrachalam in Telengana added as a destination in the IRCTC's Ramayana Circuit train.

Bhadrachalam is home to Sree Sita Ramachandra Swamy temple.

The festivals held at this shrine before Ugadi to Ramanavami are very popular and the Sita Rama Kalyanam is a blissful event to witness.

### 3. Pochampally village in Telangana selected as one of the best Tourism Villages by United Nations World Tourism Organisation

The Pochampally Village in Telangana State has been selected as one of the best Tourism Villages by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO). The prestigious award will be given on the occasion of the 24th session of the UNWTO General Assembly on 2nd December 2021 in Madrid, Spain. The Ministry of Tourism recommended three villages for the UNWTO Best Tourism Village.

## Tripura

### 1. Tripura develops country's 'first-ever' bamboo made cricket bat, stumps

Bamboo and Cane Development Institute (BCDI) of Tripura along with North East Centre of Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) claimed to have developed the country's first-ever bamboo made cricket bat maintaining all the standard protocols used for manufacturing cricket bats.

These bats could be used in all forms of cricket. The most preferred wood for the production of cricket bats is willow.

## Uttar Pradesh

### 1. Ayodhya's Deepotsav makes it to Guinness World Records for largest display of oil lamps

Ayodhya's Deepotsav made it to the Guinness World Records after the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department displayed over nine lakh oil lamps along the banks of river Sarayu as a part of grand Diwali celebrations in the holy city. UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath shared the certificate of Guinness World Record for the 'largest display of oil lamps'.

### 2. Annapurna idol to reach Varanasi's Kashi Vishwanath temple after 4-day yatra

An 18th-century idol of Goddess Annapurna, stolen from Varanasi about 100 years ago and retrieved from Canada recently, is set to return to the Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi and be installed there on November 15.

The Uttar Pradesh government will take out a four-day Mata Annapurna Devi Yatra beginning in New Delhi on November 11 to take the idol to Varanasi.

### 3. UP CM inaugurates "HunarHaat", the "Kumbh of Kaushal Kuber", "Braj Raj Utsav

The Union Ministry of Minority Affairs organised the 31st HunarHaat the Kumbh of Kaushal Kuber and Braj Raj Utsav at Vrindavan (Mathura, UP) to provide a platform to the country's talented craftsmen, artisans and culinary experts.

### 4. DARPG, UP govt to develop District Good Governance Index

With an aim to improve the efficiency of governance across districts, the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) will collaborate with the government of Uttar Pradesh to develop a District Good Governance Index, which will be a first in any state.

- Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions: Jitendra Singh

### 5. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated UP's first Private Sector Aircraft Components Defence Manufacturing Facility

The facility at Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor (UPDIC) in Lucknow, run by Aellroy Technologies, a wholly owned subsidiary of PTC industries, will manufacture parts for Aircraft Engines, Helicopter Engines, Structural parts for aircrafts, Drones and UAV, Submarines, Ultra-Light Artillery Guns, Space Launch Vehicles and Strategy Systems etc.

### 6. PM to visit Uttar Pradesh to inaugurate Purvanchal Expressway

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate Purvanchal Expressway at Karwalkheri in Sultanpur district, Uttar Pradesh.

The Purvanchal Expressway is 341 Km long. It starts from village Chaudsarai, district Lucknow located on Lucknow-Sultanpur road (NH-731) and ends at village Hydaria located on National Highway No. 31, 18 km east of UP-Bihar border. The expressway is 6-lane wide which can be expanded to 8-lane in future.

### 7. A three-day festival 'Kashi Utsav' being held in Varanasi to celebrate the classic heritage and culture of Kashi

Kashi Utsav, a three-day festival is being organised in Varanasi to celebrate the classic heritage and culture of Kashi especially the centuries-old luminaries who are Goswami Tulsidas, Sant Kabir, Sant Raidas, Bhartendu Harishchandra, Munshi Premchand and Shri Jaishankar Prasad.

The programme will be organised at Rudraksh International Cooperation and Convention Centre. IGNCA is hosting the programme on behalf of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

### 8. Bhel's air pollution control tower prototype inaugurated in Noida

Union Minister of Heavy Industries Mahendra Nath Pandey inaugurated the Air Pollution Control Tower prototype developed by state-run Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd in Noida.

The tower has been set up on the traffic island between the DND flyway & the slip road to Noida Expressway as pollution is high in this area due to the high volume of traffic.

## Uttarakhand

### 1. PM Modi inaugurates infra projects worth Rs 130 cr at Kedarnath

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated key infrastructure projects, worth Rs 130 crore, and laid the foundation stone of development works in Kedarnath. He also unveiled a 12-foot-high statue of Adi Guru Shankaracharya, who started the akhara system in the eighth century AD, at his samadhi sthal that has been reconstructed after its destruction in the 2013 Kedarnath flash. Adi Shankaracharya:- 8th-century seer who attained Moksha at Kedarnath.

## Delhi

### 1. Delhi govt launches 'Shramik Mitra' scheme to ensure benefits reach construction workers

Delhi Government launched the 'Shramik Mitra' scheme to ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach construction workers in the national capital. As part of it, 800 'Shramik Mitras' will reach out to construction workers.

Shramik Mitras will inform construction workers registered by the Construction Board at the ward level about assistance schemes of the government.

### 2. Delhi govt adds Kartarpur Sahib in Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojna

The Delhi government will send senior citizens of the city on free pilgrimage to Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan. Kartarpur Sahib and Velankanni Church in Tamil Nadu have been added to the 'Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojna' after Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's orders. The first batch of pilgrims to Kartarpur Sahib will leave in January, 2022 in a bus from Delhi.

## Jammu and Kashmir

### 1. First-ever Aharbal festival held in J-K's Kulgam to promote tourism

The first-ever Aharbal festival was held in the Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir with an aim to promote tourism in Kashmir, especially at Aharbal waterfall as a tourist destination.

Aharbal Waterfall, also called 'The Niagara of Kashmir', because of the sheer volume of river that falls down.

Aharbal Waterfall is formed when the Veshaw River. River Veshaw is a tributary of River Jhelum.

## Ladakh

### 1. Commercial cultivation of sea buckthorn berry to begin in Ladakh

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), in collaboration with the Government of the Union Territory of Ladakh, will start commercial cultivation of sea buckthorn berry from the coming spring season in Ladakh.

The immunity-boosting natural berry is getting increasingly popular not only in India but also abroad for its medicinal value.

### 2. Centre approves new Rajya Sainik Board for Ladakh

Centre has approved a new Rajya Sainik Board (RSB) for Ladakh. The Board will be an effective link between the Centre and the Ladakh Administration. Rajya Sainik Board will play an advisory role on the matters relating to the ex-servicemen, war widows, widows and non-combatants, including serving soldiers and their dependents. Zila Sainik welfare offices of Leh & Kargil will function under the newly constituted RSB

## Committees

### 1. GoI constitutes 20-member Empowered Group of Secretaries to monitor development and implementation of the PM Gati Shakti NMP

Government of India has constituted a 20-member Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS), which will be a monitoring mechanism for the development and implementation of the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan (NMP). The Cabinet Secretary will be its Chairperson. The Logistics Division will act as Secretariat to the Empowered Group of Secretaries for its Terms of Reference.

### 2. Panel to study edible oil pricing, sugarcane arrears

The Standing Committee of Parliament on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution, headed by Trinamool Congress leader Sudip Bandopadhyay, has decided to look into the increasing prices of edible oils. It will study the price regulatory mechanisms and edible oil availability in the market.

It will also examine the issue of 'payment of sugarcane arrears to farmers'. The panel will also study - production, consumption, pricing & promotion of sugar industry

### 3. Government constitutes 5-member panel to monitor Central Vista project

The Centre has constituted a Central Vista Oversight Committee to directly oversee the Rs 20,000 crore project for a period of two years.

Former Finance Secretary Ratan P Watal has been appointed the Chairman. PK Tiwari, former Deputy CAG, Shailendra Roy, former Director L & T, Prof Mausam, IIT, Delhi has been appointed members. Joint Secretary, MoHUA will be Convenor.

In September 2019, the government announced Central Vista.

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<b>Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)</b>	18.0%

<b>Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)</b>	4.0%
<b>Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)</b>	18.0%

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#### APPOINTMENTS

<b>APPOINTMENT</b>	<b>POST</b>
<b>Arun Chawla</b>	Director General of FICCI
<b>Pavan Kapoor</b>	India's ambassador to Russia
<b>CS Venkatakrishnan</b>	CEO of Barclays
<b>Sanjay Bhattacharyya</b>	India's ambassador to Switzerland,
<b>Thomas Dohmke</b>	CEO of GitHub
<b>Rajib Kumar Mishra</b>	Chairman and Managing Director of PTC India Ltd,
<b>Spaniard Daniel del Valle</b>	International Human Rights Foundation's (IHRF) High Representative for Youth
<b>Amitabh Bachchan</b>	Brand Ambassador of Amway India
<b>SN Pradhan</b>	Director-General of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)
<b>Bimal Patel</b>	UN's International Law Commission
<b>PC Mody</b>	New secretary general of Rajya Sabha
<b>Rajeev Srivastava</b>	CEO of Standard Chartered Securities (India) Limited (SCSI)
<b>Geoff Allardice</b>	CEO of International Cricket Council
<b>Sanjay Mishra</b>	Director of Enforcement Directorate (ED)
<b>Sheikh Sabah Al Khaled Al Sabah</b>	Kuwait's new Prime Minister
<b>Milos Zeman Petr Fiala</b>	Prime Minister of Czech Republic
<b>Harshwanti Bisht</b>	President of Indian Mountaineering Foundation
<b>Parag Agrawal</b>	CEO of Twitter

<b>Rahul Dravid</b>	Head coach of Indian Men's Senior Cricket team
<b>Vivek Johri</b>	Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)

## AWARDS

Winner	Award
<b>Dr. Rajiv Nigam</b>	J.A. Cushman Award for Excellence in Foraminiferal Research.
<b>Damon Galgut</b>	Booker Prize 2021
<b>TVS Motor Company</b>	India Green Energy Award
<b>Late Puneeth Rajkumar</b>	Basavashree Award 2021
<b>Tsitsi Dangarembga</b>	German peace prize 2021
<b>M Mukundan</b>	JCB Prize for Literature 2021
<b>Hema Malini, Prasoon Joshi</b>	Film Personalities of the Year at IFFI
<b>Civil society organisation "Pratham"</b>	Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace for 2021
<b>Anita Desai</b>	Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021.
<b>All India Radio and Doordarshan</b>	ABU - UNESCO Peace Media Awards 2021
<b>Sohan Roy</b>	Knighthood in Italy
<b>Arpinder Singh (athletics)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Simranjit Kaur (boxing)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Shikhar Dhawan (cricket)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Bhavani Devi Chadalavada Anandha</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Sundhararaman (fencing)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Monika (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Vandana Katariya (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Sandeep Narwal (kabaddi)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Himani Uttam Parab (mallakhamb)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Abhishek Verma (shooting)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Ankita Raina (tennis)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Deepak Punia (wrestling)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Dilpreet Singh (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Harman Preet Singh (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Rupinder Pal Singh (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Surender Kumar (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Amit Rohidas (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Birendra Lakra (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Sumit (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Nilakanta Sharma (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021

<b>Hardik Singh (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Vivek Sagar Prasad (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Gurjant Singh(hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Mandeep Singh (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Shamsher Singh (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Lalit Kumar Upadhyay (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Varun Kumar (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Simranjeet Singh (hockey)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Yogesh Kathuniya (para-athletics)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Nishad Kumar (para-athletics)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Praveen Kumar (para-athletics)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Suhash Yathiraj (para badminton)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Singhraj Adhana (para shooting)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Bhavina Patel (para table-tennis)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Harvinder Singh (para archery)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Sharad Kumar (para-athletics)</b>	Arjuna Award 2021
<b>Radhakrishnan Nair (Athletics)</b>	Dronacharya Award 2021
<b>Sandhya Gurung (Boxing)</b>	Dronacharya Award 2021
<b>Jai Prakash Nautiyal (Para Shooting)</b>	Dronacharya Award 2021
<b>Pritam Siwach (Hockey)</b>	Dronacharya Award 2021
<b>Subramanian Raman (Table Tennis)</b>	Dronacharya Award 2021
<b>TP Ouseph (Athletics)</b>	Dronacharya Lifetime Award 2021
<b>Sarkar Talwar (Cricket)</b>	Dronacharya Lifetime Award 2021
<b>Harpal Singh (Hockey)</b>	Dronacharya Lifetime Award 2021
<b>Ashan Kumar (Kabaddi)</b>	Dronacharya Lifetime Award 2021
<b>Tapan Kumar Panigrahi (Swimming)</b>	Dronacharya Lifetime Award 2021
<b>Lekha KC (Boxing)</b>	Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and Games 2021
<b>Abhijeet Kunte (Chess)</b>	Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and Games 2021
<b>Davinder Singh Garcha (Hockey)</b>	Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and Games 2021
<b>Vikas Kumar (Kabaddi)</b>	Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and Games 2021
<b>Sajjan Singh (Wrestling)</b>	Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and Games 2021
<b>Neeraj Chopra (Javelin)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Ravi Dahiya (Wrestling)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021



<b>Sunil Chhetri (Football)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Mithali Raj (Cricket)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>P Sreejesh (Hockey)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Lovlina Borgohain (Boxing)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Pramod Bhagat (Para-badminton player)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Avani Lekhara (Para rifle shooter)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Sumit Antil (Para javelin thrower)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Krishna Nagar (Para-badminton)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Manish Narwal (Para pistol shooter)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021
<b>Manpreet Singh (Hockey)</b>	Major Dhyan Chand KhelRatna Award 2021

### IMPORTANT DAYS

DATE	DAY	THEME
<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Kerala state formation day	
<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Madhya Pradesh state formation day	
<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Karnataka state formation day	
<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Chhattisgarh state formation day	
<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Haryana state formation day	
<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Andhra Pradesh state formation day	
<b>November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Punjab state formation day	
<b>October 26<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Vigilance Awareness Week	Independent India @ 75: Self Reliance with Integrity
<b>November 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	National Ayurveda Day	Ayurveda for Poshan
<b>November 5<sup>th</sup></b>	World Tsunami Awareness Day	
<b>November 6<sup>th</sup></b>	International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict	
<b>November 7<sup>th</sup></b>	National Cancer Awareness Day	
<b>November 8<sup>th</sup></b>	World Radiography Day	Interventional Radiology
<b>November 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Legal Services Day	
<b>November 9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup></b>	International Week of Science and Peace 2021	
<b>November 10<sup>th</sup></b>	World Science Day for Peace and Development	Building Climate-Ready Communities

<b>November 11<sup>th</sup></b>	National Education Day	
<b>November 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Janjatiya Gaurav Divas	
<b>November 12<sup>th</sup></b>	World Pneumonia Day	Stop Pneumonia / Every Breath Counts
<b>November 18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup></b>	World Antimicrobial Awareness Week(WAAW)	Antimicrobials: Handle with Care
<b>November 14<sup>th</sup></b>	World Diabetes Day	Access to Diabetes Care: If Not Now, When?.
<b>November 16<sup>th</sup></b>	International Day for Tolerance	Tolerance is respect, acceptance, and appreciation of the rich diversity of our worlds cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human
<b>November 16<sup>th</sup></b>	National Press Day	
<b>November 19<sup>th</sup></b>	World Toilet Day	Valuing toilets
<b>November 20<sup>th</sup></b>	World Children's Day	
<b>November 21<sup>st</sup></b>	World Fisheries Day	
<b>November 21<sup>st</sup></b>	World Television Day	
<b>November 25<sup>th</sup></b>	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	Orange the World: End Violence against Women Now
<b>November 26<sup>th</sup></b>	National Milk Day	
<b>November 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Constitution Day	
<b>November 27<sup>th</sup></b>	National Organ Donation Day	
<b>November 29<sup>th</sup></b>	International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People	
<b>November 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare	

**OBITUARY**

OBITUARY	RELATED FIELD
<b>Puneeth Rajkumar</b>	Actor
<b>Dr M Krishnan Nair</b>	Oncologist
<b>Tarak Sinha</b>	Cricket coach
<b>Koneru Ramakrishna Rao</b>	Academician, Psychologist
<b>F.W. de Klerk</b>	Former president of South Africa
<b>Babasaheb Purandare</b>	Historian and author
<b>Mannu Bhandari</b>	Author
<b>Chun Doo-hwan</b>	Former South Korean president
<b>Stephen Sondheim</b>	Musician
<b>Frank Williams</b>	Sports
<b>Shiva Shankar</b>	Dance Choreographer

**IMPORTANT STATIC & CURRENT INFO**
**INDIAN STATES, CAPITALS, CHIEF MINISTERS & GOVERNORS**

STATE	CAPITAL	CHIEF MINISTER	GOVERNOR
Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati	Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy	Biswa Bhusan Harichandn
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Pema Khandu	Brigadier B.D. Mishra (retd)
Assam	Dispur	HimantaBiswaSarma	Prof. Jagdish Mukhi
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Phagu Chauhan
Chhattisgh	Raipur	Bhupesh Baghel	AnusuiyaUikey
Goa	Panaji	Pramod Sawant	P.S. Sreedharan Pillai
Gujarat	Gandhi Nagar	Vijaybhai R. Rupani	Acharya Dev Vrat
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar	BandaruDattatraya
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Jai Ram Thakur	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Hemant Soren	Ramesh Bais
Karnataka	Bengaluru	Basavaraj Bommai	Thaawarchand Gehlot
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	Arif Mohammed Khan
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chauhan	MangubhaiChhaganbhai Patel
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Uddhav Thackrey	Bhagat Singh Koshyari
Manipur	Imphal	N Biren Singh	La. Ganesan
Meghalaya	Shillong	Conrad Kongkal Sangma	Satya Pal Malik
Mizoram	Aizawl	Pu Zoramthanga	Dr Kambhampati Haribabu
Nagaland	Kohima	Neiphiu Rio	Jagdish Mukhi
Odisha	Bhubaneshwar	Naveen Patnaik	Ganeshi Lal

Punjab	Chandigarh	Amarinder Singh	R. N. Ravi
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Ashok Gehlot	Kalraj Mishra
Sikkim	Gangtok	PS Golay	Ganga Prasad
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	M. K. Stalin	R. N. Ravi
Telangana	Hyderabad	K. Chandrasekhar Rao	Tamilisai Soundararajan
Tripura	Agartala	Biplab Kumar Deb	Satyadeo Narain Arya
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Yogi Aditya Nath	Anandiben Patel
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Pushkar Singh Dhami	Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamata Banerjee	Jagdeep Dhankhar

### UNION TERRITORIES, LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS & ADMINISTRATORS

UNION TERRITORY	LT. GOVERNOR & ADMINISTRATOR
Andaman and Nicobar Island (UT)	Admiral D K Joshi (Lieutenant Governor)
Chandigarh (UT)	Banwarilal Purohit (Administrator)
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (UT)	Praful Patel (Administrator)
Delhi (NCT)	Anil Baijal (Lieutenant Governor)
Jammu and Kashmir (UT)	Manoj Sinha (Lieutenant Governor)
Lakshadweep (UT)	Praful Patel (Administrator)
Puducherry (UT)	Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge) (Lieutenant Governor)
Ladakh (UT)	Radha Krishna Mathur (Lieutenant Governor)

### UNION MINISTERS & PORTFOLIO

UNION MINISTER	PORTFOLIO
<b>Narendra Modi</b>	Ministry of personnel, public grievances and pensions Department of Atomic Energy Department of Space
<b>Rajnath Singh</b>	Ministry of Defence
<b>Amit Shah</b>	Ministry of Home Affairs Ministry of Cooperation
<b>Nitin Gadkari</b>	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
<b>Nirmala Sitharaman</b>	Ministry of Finance Ministry of Corporate Affairs
<b>Piyush Goyal</b>	Ministry of Commerce and Industry Ministry of Textiles Ministry of Consumer affairs, food and public distribution
<b>Narendra Singh Tomar</b>	Ministry of agriculture and Farmers welfare
<b>Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar</b>	Ministry of External Affairs
<b>Arjun Munda</b>	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
<b>Smriti Zubin Irani</b>	Ministry of Women and child Development

<b>Dharmendra Pradhan</b>	Ministry of Education Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
<b>Pralhad Joshi</b>	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Ministry of coal Ministry of Mines
<b>Narayan Tatu Rane</b>	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
<b>SarbanandaSonowal</b>	Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)
<b>Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi</b>	Ministry of Minority Affairs
<b>Dr. Virendra Kumar</b>	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
<b>Giriraj Singh</b>	Ministry of Rural Development Ministry of Panchayati Raj
<b>Jyotiraditya M. Scindia</b>	Ministry of Civil Aviation
<b>Ramchandra Prasad Singh</b>	Ministry of Steel
<b>Ashwini Vaishnaw</b>	Ministry of Railways Ministry of Communications Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
<b>Pashu Pati Kumar Paras</b>	Ministry of Food Processing Industries
<b>Gajendra Singh Shekhawat</b>	Ministry of Jal Shakti
<b>Kiren Rijju</b>	Ministry of Law and Justice
<b>Raj Kumar Singh</b>	Ministry of Power Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
<b>Hardeep Singh Puri</b>	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
<b>Mansukh L. Mandaviya</b>	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
<b>Bhupender Yadav</b>	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ministry of Labour and Employment
<b>Mahendra Nath Pandey</b>	Ministry of Heavy Industries
<b>ParshottamRupala</b>	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
<b>G. Kishan Reddy</b>	Ministry of Culture Ministry of Tourism Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
<b>Anurag Singh Thakur</b>	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

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